

Saved By God

September 6, 2020



Optional: Each week during this seven-week series, open your meeting by having one or two group members share their testimony of how God saved them.

Open: What is it that causes you to feel God's love toward you?

Read & Discuss: Romans 5:6-11

1. Look just at verses 8-9. How would you paraphrase these two verses to someone you were discipling?
2. Verse 6 says that "while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly." In what sense were we "weak"? How did Christ die for us "at the right time"?
3. What makes the death of Christ such a remarkable demonstration of God's love for us? (v. 8). What has been your response to this love? Since with time, we often lose our sense of awe at this fact, what can we do maintain a fresh sense of God's love toward us?
4. How would you explain what it means to be a "sinner" (v.8)? Why do so many people struggle with being called a "sinner"? What first convinced you that you were a sinner? How does being a sinner make us an enemy of God (v. 10) and worthy of His wrath (v. 9)?
5. How would you explain what it means to be "justified by [Jesus'] blood" (v. 9)? How can we know if we have been justified by Jesus' blood? How would you counsel a non-Christian who thinks his or her sin is so severe that God could never forgive them? How would you counsel someone who has professed faith in Christ but who still struggles to believe they have really been saved?
6. What does it look like to "rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (v. 11)? How has the fact that you have received reconciliation with God impacted your life? How would you explain to an unbeliever or a new believer what this reconciliation should mean for his or her life?

Apply: What implications should the truths of Romans 5:6-11 have on your life this week?

Pray: Ask God to help us be people who continually "rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

This Week: So you're prepared to disciple someone, spend some time this week filling in the answers for Chapter 1 (pages 3-6) of *Just for Starters*. Then memorize Romans 5:8-9.

Romans 5:6-11

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—⁸ but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. ¹¹ More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. (ESV)