

Dig Deeper @Home – "God is ..." Complement to sermon on July 24 – "The Perfect Friend"

MEMORIZE – Exodus 3:14

God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'I AM has has sent me to you.'"

READ Romans 5&6

Questions to ponder/discuss:

- 1. What is this passage revealing about God and what is it revealing about us as humans?
- 2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life? What will that look like?
- 3. Read again Romans 5:1-2.
 - a. Verse 1 begins with "therefore" which means Paul is linking previous verses with this section. What is Paul linking to? (Hint: read 4:23-25)
 - b. Why is it important to know that through Christ "we have peace with God?"
- 4. Read Romans 5: 6-8.
 - a. What words does Paul use to describe humanity?
 - b. What actions does Paul ascribe to God?
 - c. In light of this, read Romans 6:15-23. We are no longer slaves to sin but slaves to righteousness. How do we grow stronger as slaves to righteousness? (hint: verse 6:17)
- 5. Paul uses the word rejoice 3 times in verses 1-11. What are we to rejoice about? Do you rejoice in all these ways currently? What will it look like to begin rejoicing in all three of these ways?

Bottom Line (give a one or two sentence summary of the scripture you just read):

Experiential

Sometimes activities help us to understand and process biblical truths. The below is one suggestion for how to experience the truths of Romans 5-6. Feel free to use this one or any you might come up with.

"Coloring in Newness

Search online and print out a coloring page of your choice. Be sure to make 2 copies. Get your utensils ready for coloring (crayons, colored pencil, marker, paint). For the first picture, put on a blindfold and then begin coloring. How did it turn out? Did you stay in the lines or go all over the place? Now, color the second picture but this time no blindfold, you will color with newness of life. How does that one look? Were you ever tempted to put the blindfold back on after you had taken it off? Probably not. That is the point Paul is making in Romans 5 & 6.

SING (a suggested song to sing. Use this or any song you might want to sing)
O for a Heart to Praise – Mennonite Hymnal #283
Even if you do not know the tune, read the words of this powerful hymn

Christ is Enough - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0fZ-tBR7LJ0</u> A great reminder that Christ has set us free and our lives are to be spent for Him.

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and praise reports. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to show up in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

O Lord, we praise you for your grace which has rescued us from our sin but also enables us to live by your truth. Bless each person here with an abundance of grace to turn from anything in our lives that is taking us from your truth, to daily live your truth and to daily proclaim your truth to those around us.