

Romans

MADE RIGHT
WITH GOD

LIVING IT OUT

KEY SCRIPTURE | Romans 2:12–16

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2023

DISCUSSION GUIDE

We are back to our series *Romans: Made Right with God!* So far, we have learned that Paul is writing to a thriving church he has never visited in Rome in the 1st century. He has heard of their great faith, and he longs to visit them soon to strengthen them. Paul writes to introduce himself, to share his gospel, and to bring unity to a church in conflict. In Romans 1–3, he is “leveling the playing field”—Jews and Gentiles are equally lost but can be made right with God through Christ. We are all guilty before God because the law of God is written on our hearts, and we fail to keep it. Doing, not just hearing, is what makes the difference. If you don’t live it, it doesn’t matter.

QUESTIONS

Ice Breaker Question: What’s the best advice you were ever given? Did you listen to the advice and follow what was said?

1. What is one thing that stood out to you about Sunday’s message?
2. Pastor Amos talked about the tensions between Jews and Gentiles in Paul’s day. What are some examples of tensions that you see in the church today?
3. Do people sometimes follow the law, or at least know what they should do, instinctively? Explain.
4. Give an example of something you are aware of but is challenging for you to live out. (Exercise, healthy eating, gossip, saving money, etc.)
5. Give an example of something you have seen where someone “should have known better.” In other words, they knew it, but didn’t do it. (Maybe not someone in your group!)
6. Spend time as a group inviting the Holy Spirit to empower you to live out what you know.



NOTES:

“Paul now introduces the Mosaic law for the first time, an issue that will be prominent in the rest of the letter. The point is that if judgment comes by works (2:6-11), then all will be judged by the same impartial criteria, whether they are Jews with the Mosaic law or Gentiles apart from it (but still having a law written on their hearts by God). The theme of God's impartial judgment in 2:11 is explained further (2:12-14) in terms of its effect on those without the law (2:12) and with the law (2:12-13). All stand equally guilty before God, for those who have the Mosaic law fail to keep it (2:12) and those who do not have that law still have God's law written on their hearts (2:14-15). The Jews and Gentiles are separated in verse 12 as those outside the Mosaic law and those within it. Those outside *will perish* without it, but those inside *will be judged* by it.”

Osborne, Grant. *Romans. IVP New Testament Commentary Series*: IVP; Downers Grove, 2004.

