

Victoria Fellowship Church
International & Interdenominational
Bible Study Worksheet – July 2, 2023

Theme: Romans: The Power of God at Work in us Topic: The Righteousness of God

Main Text: Romans 10:1-12

Key verse: Romans 10:4 *“For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth.”* (NKJV)

INTRODUCTION: Righteousness is a state of one being upright, free from all guilt, being right in deeds and conducts. According to Scriptures, there are two types of righteousness. The first is our (self) righteousness – that is our attempt to do and be right before God through our deeds and conduct - which God says are like filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6). And the second is God’s righteousness, which He inputs to us according to His will, which Jesus Christ encourages us to seek (Matthew 6:33). This is because God’s righteousness is a position which is not influenced by our acts or deeds (2 Corinthians 5:21). King David spoke about this righteousness as something to be celebrated (Psalm 32:1-2) - a position where one is totally blameless and guilt free, because it is not dependent on your right doings but on the one who is truly righteous, JESUS! So, the righteousness of God is about right standing and not right doing.

1. **Read Romans 10:1- 5 and Philippians 3:9. (a) Compare and contrast God’s righteousness and man’s righteousness and identify the advantage(s) of one over the other. (b) As good as obeying the law is, what is its one fatal flaw? (c) According to Matthew 6:33, what one argument will you advance to encourage a person to choose God’s righteousness rather than seeking right doing?**

Having established that the righteousness of God is a position which is not influenced by one’s actions or deeds, a natural question might then be how one can obtain this righteousness of God – this right standing with God. An attempt to answer this question will have to overcome two major obstacles: one is the obstacle of our human court system where innocence is based on good behavior – one is declared innocent if one has done what is right and free from any faults. The second obstacle is the Old Testament where a comprehensive set of rules and regulations was put in place, which when followed puts one in an upright position. And it was a lot of hard work – all the religious ceremonies, animal sacrifices, rules to be aware of and adhere to. To make matters worse, Galatians 3:11 says that *‘no man is justified by the law in the sight of God...’* Indeed, no one can be righteous by works before God, for all have fallen short of what He requires (Romans 3:23). But then God steps in to demonstrate His righteousness in the person of Jesus Christ (Romans 3:21-26).

2. **(a) What do you suppose Romans 3:21 is referring to when it states that *the righteousness of God which is apart from the law has been revealed*? (b) Romans 10:4 (AMP) says that *“For Christ is the end of the law [it leads to Him, and its purpose is fulfilled in Him], for [granting] righteousness to everyone who believes [in Him as Savior]”* What does this mean to you in the light of the topic and quarter theme? (c) If you were to make a conviction statement about the role of Jesus Christ in the righteousness of God, what will that conviction statement sound like?**

God is a God of covenant, and His word says in our memory verse for today, *“They don’t understand that Christ gives to those who trust in Him everything they are trying to get by keeping His laws. He ends all of that.”* (TLB). Christ’s sacrifice – His death, resurrection, and ascension - has ended all that treadmill pursuit of righteousness through the law. That Jesus came in the flesh, was crucified, buried, and rose again are all historical facts which the Jews of Paul’s days were all too familiar with. Yet, knowing those facts could not get them saved. That is why Romans 10:4 stated that *“Christ is the end of the law [it leads to Him, and its purpose is fulfilled in Him], for [granting] righteousness to everyone who believes [in Him as Savior]”* (AMP)

3. **(a) According to Romans 10:4, what is the one way of obtaining the righteousness of God? (b) Romans 10:8-11 spells out the ingredients of our faith in Christ. Let participants identify these ingredients. Why are these important concerning the righteousness of God? (c) Romans 10:11-12 declares that the righteousness of God through Christ is available to ‘whoever believes.’ Let participants mention some practical implications of this in how we go about doing good works and evangelizing.**

Prayer: *Father, make it plain to us as we strive after Your righteousness, that Christ desires to show us the way, and that in earnestly proclaiming Him, many more will come to know and follow. Amen.*