

Gospel Community Study Guide: Romans 3:25-31

Shona

25Mwari akamupa iye sechibayiro chokuyananisa kubudikidza nokutenda muropa rake. Akaita izvi kuti aratidze kururamisira kwake, nokuti mukuita mwoyo murefu kwake akaregerera hake zvivi zvakaitwa kare. 26Akazviita kuti aratidze kururamisira kwake panguva ino, kuitira kuti ave akarurama uye anoshayira mhosva vava vanotenda muna Jesu. 27Zvino kuzvikudza kuripiko? Kwabviswa. Nomurayiro upiko? Wokuchengetedza murayiro here? Kwete, asi nomurayiro wokutenda. 28Naizvozvo tinomira pakuti munhu anoshayirwa mhosva nokutenda kwete nokuchengeta murayiro. 29Ko, Mwari ndiMwari wavaJudha voga here? Ko, haazi Mwari wavaHedheniwo here? Hongu ndowavaHedheniwo, 30sezvo kuna Mwari mumwe chete uyo acharuramisira vakadzingswa nokutenda uye vasina kudzingswa kubudikidza nokutenda kumwe cheteko. 31Zvino tinobvisa murayiro nokutenda uku here? Kwete napaduku! Asi, tinosimbisa murayiro.

Zulu

25ammisileyo uNkulunkulu abe yinhlawulo ngokukholwa egazini lakhe, kubonakaliswe ukulunga kwakhe ngokuyekelwa kwezono ezenziwe ngaphambili 26ekubekezeleni kukaNkulunkulu, ukuba kubonakaliswe ukulunga kwakhe esikhathini samanje, ukuze yena abe ngolungileyo, abe ngumlungisisi walowo okholwa nguJesu. 27Ngakho kuphi ukuzibonga na? Kuvalelwe phandle. Ngamthetho muni na? Ngowemisebenzi na? Qhabo, kodwa ngomthetho wokukholwa. 28Ngakho-ke sithi umuntu ulungisiswa ngokukholwa ngaphandle kwemisebenzi yomthetho. 29Kumbe uNkulunkulu ungowabaJuda kuphela na? Kasiye nowabezizwe na? Yebo, nowabezizwe, 30uma impela uNkulunkulu emunye oyakulungisisa abasokileyo ngokukholwa nabangasokile ngokukholwa. 31 Ngakho-ke umthetho siwenza ize ngenxa yokukholwa na? Qha nakanye, kodwa siyawuqinisa umthetho.

Swahili

25ambaye Mungu amekwisha kumweka awe upatanisho kwa njia ya imani katika damu yake, ili aonyeshe haki yake, kwa sababu ya kuziachilia katika ustahimili wa Mungu dhambi zote zilizotangulia kufanywa; 26apate kuonyesha haki yake wakati huu, ili awe mwenye haki na mwenye kumhesabu haki yeye amwaminiye Yesu. 27 Ku wapi, basi, kujisifu? Kumefungiwa nje. Kwa sheria ya namna gani? Kwa sheria ya matendo? La! Bali kwa sheria ya imani. 28Basi, twaona ya kuwa mwanadamu huhesabiwa haki kwa imani pasipo matendo ya sheria. 29Au je! Mungu ni Mungu wa Wayahudi tu? Siye Mungu wa Mataifa pia? Naam, ni Mungu wa Mataifa pia; 30kama kwa kweli Mungu ni mmoja, atakayewahesabia haki wale waliotahiriwa katika imani, nao wale wasiotahiriwa atawahesabia haki kwa njia ya imani iyo hiyo. 31Basi, je! Twaibatilisha sheria kwa imani hiyo? Hasha! Kinyume cha hayo twaithibitisha sheria.

Tswana

Yo Modimo o mmeileng go nna thuanano ka madi a gagwe e e bonwang ka tumelo, gore go supuwe tshiamo ya ona ka ntlha ya go tlhokomologa maleo a a dirilweng pele, Modimo o ntse o iphapaantse gore o tle o supe tshiamo ya ona mo sebakeng seno, e nne ona o o siameng, o o siamisang ene yo o dumelang mo go Jesu. 27Mme jaanong ipelafatso e kae? E latlhetswe kwa ntle. E le ka molao ofe? A ke wa ditiro? Nnyaya, ke ka molao wa tumelo. Ke ka moo re kayang gore motho o siamisiwa ka tumelo fela, e seng ka ditiro tsa molao. A kampo Modimo ke Modimo wa Bajuta fela? A ga se wa Baditšhaba le bone? Ee, ke wa Baditšhaba le bone, ka e le gore Modimo ke o le mongwe fela; ba ba rupileng o tla ba siamisa mo tumelong, le ba ba sa

rupang o ba siamisa ka tumelo. Jaanong a ke go re, re dirolola molao ka tumelo? Le go ka; tota re tlhomamisa molao.

Afrikaans

25-26 Hom het God gegee as offer wat deur sy bloed versoening bewerk het vir dié wat glo. Hierdeur het God getoon wat sy vrypraak behels: Hy het die sondes wat Hy voorheen in sy verdraagsaamheid tydelik ongestraf laat bly het, vergewe. Maar Hy het ook getoon wat sy vrypraak in die teenswoordige tyd behels: Hy oordeel regverdig deurdat Hy elkeen vryspreek wat in Jesus glo. 27 Het ons nou iets uit onself om op te roem? Nee, dit is uitgesluit. Deur watter wet? Dié van die werke? Nee, deur dié van die geloof. 28 Ons betoog is tog dat 'n mens vrygespreek word omdat hy glo, nie omdat hy die wet onderhou nie. 29 Of is God net God van die Jode, nie ook van die heidennasies nie? Ja, ook van die heidennasies, 30 want daar is net een God. Hy sal die besnedenes deur die geloof en die onbesnedenes deur dieselfde geloof vryspreek. 31 Hef ons dan deur die geloof die wet op? Beslis nie. Ons laat die wet juis tot sy reg kom.

Sermon Summary:

The central message of Christianity is about what God has accomplished through Jesus on the cross. We proclaim the cross. We meditate on the cross. We love the cross. We glory in the cross. But why? Why is the message about how God justifies sinners on the basis of Christ's work on the cross so important? **In Romans 3:25ff Paul helps us see how the message of justification by faith alone glorifies God, humbles us, unites believers and honors God's Word.**

Review and Discussion Questions:

1. Many people are going to churches and hearing little about the cross and about justification by faith alone. Read the following passages and discuss what you think Paul's attitude would be to a lack of Christ-centered, cross-centered preaching?

1 Corinthians 2:1-2
Galatians 6:14
Philippians 3:3
1 Corinthians 1:17
2 Corinthians 5:18,19
2. If you want to know the main thing, the central thing that apostle Paul emphasized in his preaching, it would be the cross, the death of Christ on the cross, what God accomplished through the work of Jesus on the cross. And he did this in spite of the fact that it was not popular. There were many other things Paul could have talked about which people might have liked more. What are some typical things people like to hear about more in church than the cross and justification by faith? What might be some objections people would have to all this focusing on the cross?
3. In Romans 3:25ff, Paul helps us understand some important reasons why we must preach the cross and justification by faith and why we must never deviate from this. Let's read this passage now and consider some of those reasons.
4. First Paul says, "This was to show God's righteousness..." And then he says again in verse 26, "It was to show his righteousness." When Paul talks about the reason for Jesus' death on the cross, he brings up who first here? What does the cross show about God? What does the word righteousness mean? What are the

two problems that Paul is saying that the cross answers in regards to God's righteousness? Why is God's patience in the Old Testament a problem and how does the cross answer that? We sometimes think it should be easy for God to justify us. But what is there about God and us that makes it difficult to understand how He could justify us and how does the cross answer that question?

5. After looking at the way the cross glorifies God, Paul goes on to show us how the cross humbles us. He writes in verse 27, "Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By a law of works? No, but by a law of faith. For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from the works of the law." What does it mean to boast? What problems do humans have with boasting? What are the results of always seeking to find something to boast in yourself about? What does it do to you and what does it do to your relationships? If we were justified by works, would that stop us from boasting? Why not? How does the way God saved us exclude boasting?
6. Let's read 1 Corinthians 1:28-31 which talks about this same issue. What does this passage say about who God saved and why He saved them that way? What does this passage say that is similar to Romans 3 about boasting? What does it add?
7. One reason why God saved us the way he did was to make it impossible for us to boast in ourselves. Why is that such a good thing? How does that encourage you?
8. Third, Paul shows us how justification by faith unites believers. What two groups were there in the early church that often had a such problem experiencing unity? One reason was because the Jews felt superior because of the spiritual privileges they experienced. How does Paul in Romans 2 and 3 show them that isn't a reason to feel superior to others? We might say that the fact we all deserve God's judgment removes all reasons for pride. Now, in Romans 3:29, Paul takes a bit of a different approach. Read this verse. What does he appeal to here? What does he mean?
9. The fact that we are all justified the same way removes the distinctions between us. What difference should the fact we all have been given the righteousness of God through faith make on someone who is feeling inferior to others because of their race, what difference should it make on someone who is feeling superior?
10. The final reason we see in this passage that justification by faith is important is because it upholds the law. In what ways does the message of the cross honor and fulfill and uphold the law? (Hint: We mentioned three on Sunday.)
11. I suppose in the world's eyes, the fact that Jesus died on the cross is something shameful and sad. But for us, it is beautiful. We glory in it. Or at least we should. Do we? Do you glory in the doctrine of justification by faith alone? Would you happily spend the rest of your life learning more about and giving praise to God for the way in which he saved you? If not, why not? How can the truths we learned together today motivate you to focus more energy on studying and proclaiming the cross?