

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

Romans 5:15-21

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ Day 1

Read Romans 5:15-21

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Commands are double-underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

15 But the free gift is not like the transgression.

For if by the transgression
of the one the many died,
much more did the grace
of God
and the gift
by the grace
of the one Man,
Jesus Christ,
abound
to the many.

16 The gift is not like that which came

through the one
who sinned;
for on the one hand the judgment arose
from one transgression
resulting in condemnation,
but on the other hand the free gift arose
from many transgressions
resulting in justification.

17 For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one,
much more those

who receive the abundance
of grace
and of the gift
of righteousness

will reign
in life through the One,
Jesus Christ.

18 So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation
to all men,

even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification
of life
to all men.

19 For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners,
even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous.

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20 The Law came in

so that the transgression would increase;

but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,

21 so that, as sin reigned

in death,

even so grace would reign

through righteousness

to eternal life

through Jesus Christ

our Lord.

1. Considering the word “but” at the beginning of verse 15, what is the nature of the contrast? What is being contrasted?
2. What is “the free gift” referring to? Use scripture to support your answer.
3. Define transgression. What is the “transgression of the one” referring to? Use scripture to support your answer.
4. In what way is the “free gift” not like the transgression according to verse 15?
5. What is the difference between the “grace of God” and the “gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ according to verse 15?

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6. What parallel relationships do you see between verses 15 and 16-17? Look for similar wording and structure in each of these verses?

7. Why might both these parallel statements be necessary to include? What is being added in the second parallel statement?

8. Who is the one man through whom many died? Support your answer with scripture.

❖ Day 2

Read Romans 5:15-21 again.

9. There is a contrast in the middle of verse 16 triggered by the words “on the one hand...but on the other hand.” What is the distinction being made?

10. In what way does death reign according to verse 17?

11. What else is described as reigning in verse 17?

12. Summarize the argument being made in verse 17 in your own words.

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13. Notice that there are multiple contrasts being made in succession in these verses. List them all together here.

14. In verse 18, there is a change from a contrast to a comparison. What is the comparison being made here?

15. What is condemnation? Support your answer with scripture.

16. What is justification? Support your answer through scripture.

❖ Day 3

Read Romans 5:15-21 again.

17. Explain the use of “all men” here in verse 18. Does this mean that everyone will be saved? How do you know?

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18. How will people be made righteous?

19. What is the law? Support your answer with scripture.

20. Why does the law come according to verse 20?

21. Describe the contrast in verse 20 signaled by the word “but.” What is being contrasted?

22. Why does grace abound where sin increased according to verse 21?

23. What is the result of grace reigning through righteousness?

24. How does eternal life come to believers according to this text?

In preparation for Sunday, pray with gratitude for the sufficient sacrifice of Christ, the God-man, for your sin. Praise God for the exclusivity of Jesus’ sacrifice trusting in him as the sole way for salvation.