

9-15-24 Facilitator – Justified by Faith in Jesus, Tim Rice

1. Launchers:

When are you most concerned with being vindicated (cleared of blame or suspicion)?

2. Worship God – The worship songs you have been listening to recently.

3. Sermon Reflection: Galatians 2:15-21, Justified by Faith in Jesus

Galatians 2:15–21 (ESV) Justified by Faith ¹⁵ We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; ¹⁶ yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified. ¹⁷ But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we too were found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! ¹⁸ For if I rebuild what I tore down, I prove myself to be a transgressor. ¹⁹ For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. ²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹ I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.

- **WHO HAS A PROBLEM?**
 - What can we learn from the law and our failure to fulfill it?
 - Under God's smile, why is repentance natural? Yet without, repentance is *un-natural, even torturous*; only Grace makes repentance joyful
 - Where are you trying to gain life from something or someone other than Christ?
 - Can you see how this *is* setting aside *God's* work?
- **WHAT DOES NOT SOLVE THE PROBLEM?**
 - Why do we hold no hope in the law or our efforts to obey it?
 - When have you hit the point of hopelessness? And what got you there?
 - Why do we believe that can end up being a good experience? (WSC)
- **HOPE & CONFIDENCE IN JESUS**
 - Why instead, do we have hope in Jesus?
 - Where else does an offended enemy stand to publicly defend and exonerate His offender?
 - This is another aspect of how **Jesus is holy**
 - What changes if you know that you have status, resources and purpose?
 - AND that these are gifts from Your Maker whom you had rejected?

4. Kingdom Centered Prayer: You Can Pray with Us

1. Worship the LORD for His lovingkindness to offer us redemption — both forgiveness and transformation by His grace. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit for His goodness to work for our salvation.
2. How have you sensed trouble in your own soul but you sought solutions that have nothing to do with Jesus? Confess your autonomy to Jesus, asking Him to forgive you and to change you by His love.
3. Give thanks to Jesus for His goodness to confront us in our sin in order to save our lives. Thank Him for loving us enough to give us His commands (His *law*) and then giving Himself for us in our guilt and failure.
4. Who do you know that is hopeless because of their failures and sin? Pray for them, asking the Lord to help them repent and turn to Him in His grace and mercy.
5. Ask the Spirit to bear in you His fruit of love and faithfulness. Pray to be transformed by the renewal of your mind in Christ and to be conformed to His likeness.

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5. **Mission:** Christian's are on mission with words of Hope and prayers of redemption.

John 15:6–7 (ESV) ⁶If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

WSC Q. 31 What is effectual calling? A. Effectual calling is the work of God's Spirit, whereby,

- convincing us of our sin and misery,
- enlightening our minds in the knowledge of Christ,
- and renewing our wills,
- he does persuade and enable us to embrace Jesus Christ,
- freely offered to us in the gospel.

Spend some time praying for your friends who are stuck, slow growing or not growing Spiritually using Effectual Calling from WSC.