

TALK IT OVER

WEEK THIRTEEN THE MESSAGE ABOUT FAITH

Think back through the message. What sticks out to you?

Key Scriptures

⁸... And that message is the very message about faith that we preach: ⁹If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. Romans 10:8-10 NLT

¹³For "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." ¹⁴But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?¹⁵And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, "How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!" Romans 10:13-15 NLT

Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Why was being made right with God by faith a stumbling block for the Israelites? What lesson should we learn from their stumbling?
- Share your faith story. When did you first put your faith in God? Who shared the Good News with you? What happened in your life after you came to faith?

Start thinking. Ask questions to get your group thinking.

- Paul said in chapter 10 vs 2 that the Israelites had enthusiasm for God but that it was misguided zeal. How can we make sure that we do not become misguided in our zeal for God?
- Read Romans 10:9-10. If being made right with God is as easy as Paul describes it there, why do Christians have such a tendency to complicate salvation?

Start sharing. Choose questions that create openness.

- How would you describe your comfort level with sharing the Good News with someone? Why do you think so many Christians can share their beliefs about politics, medicine, and so many other things but then struggle to be confident in sharing our faith?
- Paul ends chapter 10 with a reminder that not everyone will welcome the Good News (vs 16-21). Why do you think Paul makes these remarks here? How should that reality affect us who do believe?

Start praying. Be bold, and pray specifically.

- God, thank you that I have received the message about faith, and have responded to it. Thank you for the confidence of knowing I have been saved. Help me to return the favor and tell others about you so they can have the opportunity to respond to the message about faith as well. Amen.

Start doing. Commit to a step, and live it out this week.

- Watch the overview video of Romans 5-16 by "The Bible Project." <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/romans-5-16/>
- Read the book of Romans at least once during this series.
- Make a list of people that are a part of your life that are currently far from Christ. Write their names somewhere where you will see them and begin to pray for them to place their faith in Christ and opportunities for you to be a messenger.