

Sermon Guide



“Jesus, True & Better Righteousness”

November 12, 2023

Zechariah 3:1-5

- 1. Rick said that we resist the hope of the righteousness we receive through Christ. We experience shame and try to earn our worth. Seeking righteousness is different than seeking to grow; when we seek our own righteousness, we attempt to be worthy before God and others apart from the finished work of Christ.** In what ways do you seek righteousness?
- 2. Rick said that our problem is not our filthy rags; our problem is that we don't see those rags in light of the redemption story that will give God glory.** Are there areas you struggle to believe God is writing a redemption story? Share whatever you feel comfortable sharing.
- 3. Rick shared the lies shame tells believers. He then had the congregation speak truth against those lies. Read through the following statements. Which of these statements do you most need to hear, and how does Christ's righteousness speak into your life and heart?**
 - Shame says I am unworthy of being loved... But because of Christ's righteousness, “I am loved.”
 - Shame says, “If they only knew me.” Righteousness says, “I am fully known.”
 - Shame says, “I am not good enough to belong.” Righteousness says, “I belong.”
 - Shame says, “I am ruined by what I have done.” Righteousness says, “I have been made clean.”
 - Shame says, “I am ruined by what has been done to me.” Righteousness says, “I am redeemed.”
 - Shame says, “I am helpless.” Righteousness says, “I am full of His strength.”
 - Shame says, “I am hopeless.” Righteousness says, “I hope only in Him, and it is enough.”

Prayer Prompt: The first sin came about because Adam and Eve agreed with a lie. As you read through question three, did you realize any lies you believed? Spend time confessing those and ask the Lord to take back that territory. Example: “Jesus, I confess I often feel that I am not enough to belong. I agree with your righteousness that I belong. By your Spirit, heal and restore anything that has been harmed by that lie.”