

Kingdom Vision: Eager to Help
Growth Group Discussion
Romans 10:5-15

Opening Questions (get everyone involved in discussion):

- Begin with prayer. Take at least 30 seconds to be silent, clearing your minds of distractions and preparing to hear from God's word.
- What piece of local knowledge are you most eager to share with someone who moves to the area?

1. READ Romans 10:3-5.

- How would you define the kind of "righteousness" that Paul is describing here?
 - What does he mean with the phrase, "...will *live* by them?"
 - To what approach to attaining that righteousness is Paul alluding?
- On Sunday, Josh suggested that everyone is trying to construct their own "righteousness," in one way or another. Do you agree or disagree?
 - In the past, what has this effort looked like for you?
 - What are some reasons why this approach to righteousness does not work?

2. READ Romans 10:6-13.

- Here we see the kind of "righteousness" offered by Jesus in the gospel, and how it is different from the previous form of "righteousness." According to Paul's words here, what makes this approach to righteousness unique? (Try to notice at least three distinctions).
- Why do you think he lays emphasis both on declaring with your mouth *and* believing in your heart?

3. READ Romans 10:14-15.

- Here is the practical crux of the passage. While the righteousness Jesus offers is available to everyone by faith, many people are not accessing it. According to these verses, why not?
- Think about the non-Christians with whom you are closest (in your neighborhood, school, workplace, or other). What do you think is the primary reason they have not placed their faith in Jesus?
- How often do you speak with someone in your spheres of influence about what Jesus offers, which they need?

4. Our church's new vision statement says, "We will equip every disciple to introduce others to a life-giving relationship with Jesus." Discuss what this means practically, as follows.

- How well have you been equipped—by 3VC or another church or organization—to introduce others to a relationship with Jesus? Be as honest as possible.
 - Is there some practical way that we could equip you better? Please share with leadership!
- Share about someone who was instrumental in leading you to faith in Jesus. What about that person had an impact on you?
- Have you had anyone ask you directly about how to have a relationship with God? If so, what brought about the question?
- What most inhibits you from talking about Jesus with others outside the church?
- Pastor Josh suggested on Sunday that generally, we will have to lay the relational groundwork with people in a way that they will be open to the gospel. He gave the following suggestions. Discuss them, spending more time on the ones that seem more helpful to you. Which of these have you found to be valuable? Which do you think could be most useful?
 - Ask questions to try to get them off the superficial level. Example: What do they trust for their security? What do they hope in for significance? How do they deal with problems and failures?
 - Show hospitality.
 - Talk about how you deal with some of your issues.
 - Ask them what they think about faith, God, or religion (general), and not respond with any correction—just listen.
 - Talk about your own journey, and especially some turning points.
 - Ask, what do you think about faith in Jesus? What objections might you hear in response?
 - Invite them to serve with you.
 - Invite them to read a book of the Bible with you.
 - Invite them to a venue where they can hear and process the gospel, such as Alpha.
- Which of the above ideas could our group practice together?

PRAYER:

- Pray for at least one person, by name, who you know needs a relationship with Jesus. Pray for opportunities to have in-depth conversations with them.
- Take time also to share about and pray for any other needs that exist in your group.