

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, and Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God, and How does it point to Christ (Romans 5:1-10)?

- a) Pst. Mark mentioned that our sin was a declaration of war with God. We were once enemies of God, bound for his wrath. How does reflecting on our past enmity help us identify the status of those who have not heard or accepted the gospel?
- b) Pst Mark mentioned that “peace” is the essence of God’s mission in the world. Bringing Shalom, the reconciliation of the world to himself, was his plan all along for the world. What are some other “world solutions” that we tend to consider, advocate, or “rejoice in” above the “peace of God”?
- c) Pst. Mark identified that when Jesus said, “Peace be unto you” to his disciples, it was not simply a greeting but an intentional act of assurance. The believer is assured peace with God through faith in Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection. Christ did not simply die on His own accord but as one sent by the Father. Discuss how Christ’s submissive and sacrificial “sent-ness” shapes our “sent-ness” to the world.

2. What does this passage teach us about us?

- a) Pst Mark stated that Christ has the authority to send us. Therefore, we are no longer enemies of God, but now we participate in God’s mission for this world. How does that give us confidence to take the gospel to the unreached?
- b) Christ does not only have authority to send us, but he has given us authority through the Holy Spirit to declare God’s forgiveness upon those who, by faith, accept Christ’s redemption. How does that give us confidence to take the gospel to the unreached?
- c) “The worst thing that can happen to you has happened: you have been crucified with Christ” (Pst. Mark). Discuss some fears and comforts that hinder us from walking in Christ’s authority while participating in Christ’s suffering to reach the unsaved.

APPLICATION

- a) Discuss any that resonate with you as you think through the following application. (NOTE: The goal is that all four applications are cultivated simultaneously).
 - **Pray:** Pray for all missionaries. Ask our church admin for a missionary prayer card if you don’t have one (Eph 6:18-20)
 - **Serve:** Be equipped to reach the unsaved by serving in a church ministry (Galatians 6:10).
 - **Give:** We are fellow workers in the gospel by financially and materially supporting those who dedicate their lives to missions (3 John 5-8)
 - **Go:** Through the help of the Spirit, we ought to reach the unsaved by the confidence we have in Christ’s authority (Matt 28:19-20)

PRAYER

- Praise God for the privilege of participating in His mission for the world.
- Confess how you have neglected/minimized the need to be submissive and sacrificial in “going,” as Christ was submissive and sacrificial in reconciling you to God.
- Thank God for sending Christ, who sent the Spirit to you as your encourager, helper, and comforter as you participate in God’s mission.
- Ask God to give you the strength to pursue the great commission and persevere in it.