

Dig Deeper @Home – “For the Sake of His Name”
Complement to lesson on 4/23/23 – “Revealing Truth”

ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. What’s your favorite way to eat an egg? An omeo?
2. Share a time you were judged. How did you feel?

MEMORIZE – Romans 8:1-2

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

READ – Read Romans 2

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. Re-scan the text and consider...
 - a. What did the Holy Spirit cause to “jump off the page” as you read?
 - b. Is anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared? (If so... why might that be?)
 - c. What are the verses revealing about God? About people?
In light of these, what needs to change in your life? What are you already doing well?
2. According to Paul, what is the danger in judging?
 - a. What is the relationship between God’s kindness and our judging?
 - b. What does it look like to presume on God’s kindness?
 - c. What is His kindness meant to do?
3. Why does Paul say that “the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you?”
 - a. What were the people doing that made them guilty of this?
 - b. How does this reality show up in your life?

EXPERIENTIAL ACTIVITY – *Matters of the Heart*

Paul has a sobering reality to share with us ... our hearts are hard and penitent. Because of this, we judge others for the same things we do and what we teach others, we fail to do ourselves. Fortunately, God is kind and His kindness is meant to lead to our repentance. In fact, Paul reveals the solution to our hard hearts ... the circumcision of our hearts by the Spirit of God. To see a demonstration of this, get KrazyGlue. Open it and squeeze out some glue and then let the glue dry and harden over the opening. Can other glue come out anymore? Why not? What needs to be done in order to get the glue out? (Remove the dried glue). How does this relate to what Paul is saying in Romans 2?

So, putting this all together ... we have hard hearts (like glue tubes with dried glue covering the opening), but God in His kindness beckons us to repent and when we do, when we turn to him, he will circumcise our hearts (remove the hard parts, like removing the dried glue). Knowing this, take time to confess to God the hardness in your own hearts and ask for the circumcision of the Spirit.

SING (Suggested songs to sing. Use these, or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!)

Reckless Love - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sc6SSHuZvQE>

Near the Cross - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=18YGgCLrIpI>

Psalms 8 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3KESHIBh8a8>

Trust and Obey - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KB4KcleYiWM>

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the series:

As you go this week, remember that you are loved by God and called to be saints. May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you believe in Him, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.