

## **How Is God Justified in Saving Any of Us?**

(Romans 3:21-26)

People often ask, "How can a good/loving God send people to hell?" However, an examination of the gospel described by Paul in Romans 3 quickly changes that to "How can a righteous God be justified in saving any of us?"

### **Your sin is far greater than you ever imagined:**

- We do bad things (sin) because we love it; we will never choose God unless He draws us (John 3:19-20)
- That applies to ALL of us; none of us is exempt (verse 23)
- The law doesn't give us God's righteousness and cannot save us, but it *does* show us our need for it. (verse 21)

### **God's Love and Grace is Far Greater Than You Ever Imagined:**

- God *gives us* His righteousness (verse 24) by which we are justified.
- It is a gift; it cannot be purchased or earned through good works or obeying the law. (verse 20)

### **The Cross Gives Us Right Standing Before God:**

- Because of God's love for us, He bought us back like Hosea did with his straying wife Gomer.
- Jesus paid the price required to purchase right standing before God for us.
- By shedding His blood in our place, the holy, righteous wrath of God was satisfied and appeased. (verse 25)

### **The Only Way to Receive God's Righteousness is Through Faith in Jesus:**

- The only way to receive God's righteousness is through faith in Jesus. (verse 22)
- Faith in something means that you put all of your weight on, and trust completely in, that thing. True faith in Jesus requires you to throw the entirety of yourself on Jesus, holding nothing back. That is complete surrender of every area of your life in absolute obedience to Jesus.

*Questions to Consider:*

1. As you reflect on the issues (areas of sin) you struggle with, where do you see yourself still loving sin per John 3:19-20?
2. What makes those areas hard to surrender?
3. Where in your life are you still holding onto a "works" mentality or mindset?
4. What is the Lord calling you to do this week to more fully throw yourself on Jesus in every area of your life?