

## What's the Big Deal About the Gospel? (Part Two)

### Romans 1:16–17

#### READY

1. What reveals a person's character to others?
2. How is the effectiveness of a teacher indicated by the students?

#### SET & GO

**Primary Text:** Romans 1:16–17

**Supporting Texts:** Romans 8:29

- Set 1 Read Romans 1:17 aloud.** Answer the following questions:  
In what does Paul say the righteousness of God is being revealed?  
How are people to respond to the gospel?  
How are believers (the righteous) supposed to live their lives?

**Set 2** In the gospel we are able to see God's righteous character, to see what He has and is doing to make things right, and to experience the righteousness that comes from His work on our behalf.

Go 2a Discuss how the gospel reveals God's righteous character.

Go 2b Discuss how in the gospel God is making all things right.

Go 2c Discuss how through the gospel we are able to experience righteousness.

**Set 3 Briefly discuss:** All those who believe the gospel are saved and declared righteous. This righteousness is a status that is given that does not change and that guarantees salvation. But through the gospel God is also helping us to live more and more righteously. This progressive change in us reveals God's righteousness and displays the power of the gospel to bring it about.

Go 3a If God has declared you righteous, why does this guarantee your salvation? Do you ever worry about your standing before God? How will preaching the gospel to yourself help you?

Go 3b In Romans 8:29 Paul says that God predestined us to become "conformed to the image of His Son." How does this change into Christ-likeness reveal God's righteousness? To whom is it being revealed?

Go 3c Is your life displaying the power of the gospel? Are there any areas of your life that contradict the gospel or that distort the gospel?

**Set 4 Briefly discuss:** Paul says that the righteous person will live by faith, and he also seems to indicate that this faith will be ever growing ("from faith to faith). In the context, this faith is in the gospel, but ultimately this means that we are trusting in Christ since the gospel is about Him and His work.

Go 4a Is your faith in Christ growing? How will hearing the gospel help you to strengthen your faith?

Go 4b How is your understanding of the gospel shaping your daily decisions? How does the gospel shape the way you respond to difficult situations or difficult people?

#### FINISH

1. Do you spend more time listening to yourself or intentionally speaking the gospel to yourself?
2. The following are a few resources that will help you to better understand the gospel: What is the Gospel by Greg Gilbert; A Gospel Primer by Milton Vincent; The Cross Centered Life by C.J. Mahaney.