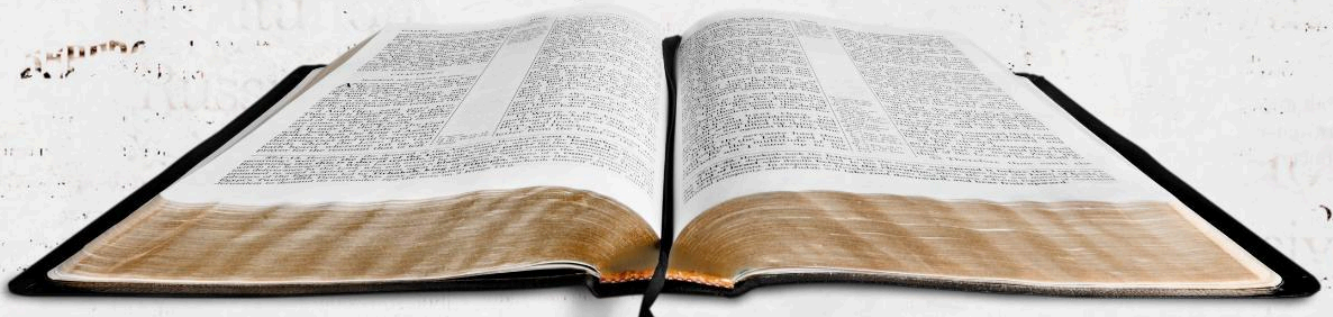


# **NOT ASHAMED**

Romans 1 - 8

## **The joy of justification**

**Connect group notes**



## TOPIC : Romans: 5: The Joy of Justification

To find this sermon visit

[www.outlookchurch.co.za/sermons](http://www.outlookchurch.co.za/sermons)

## MEDITATION TIME:

Welcome to our weekly small group BIBLE MEDITATION outline. The goal is to get people chewing on the Word of God. We use a simple strategy called **S. O. A. P.** to guide us through.

Let's dive in:

**S - SCRIPTURE:** Today's text(s) are:

***Romans 5:1-11***

We encourage you to each read a verse as you go round the group - use whatever translation you have.

If you don't want to read aloud then just nudge the person after you, but do your best to join in.

## **O - OBSERVATION:**

The goal here is to underline or highlight the verse that stands out to you the most.

What verse that catches your attention?

What words or phrases in that verse stand out in particular?

Take a few moments individually to answer these questions.

**A - APPLICATION:** Now ask people to take turns to share their verse, by getting them to answer these two questions:

Which verse did you choose and what is it saying?

Why do you think the Holy Spirit is highlighting this verse to you?

**P - PRAYER:** Once everyone has had a chance to share their verses, close the evening with a round of prayer.

Ask everyone to turn their verse and what they felt God saying to them into a short prayer for the rest of the group.

Go clockwise around the table giving everyone a chance to pray.

## Summary

This sermon focuses on Romans 5:1-11 and explores the benefits of justification through faith in Jesus Christ. Justification has three main benefits for us that affect our past, present and future. If we accept Jesus as our righteousness we are justified before God giving us peace with

God (past). Secondly our justification allows us access to God's grace (present), and thirdly gives us hope for our future. Justification IS a one-time event that comes with ongoing blessings that transform our relationship with God.

## KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Justification through faith brings peace with God, ending our state of hostility with Him.
- Justification allows continuous access to God's presence and grace.
- Justification gives us hope that leads to an assurance no matter what we face and helps us process suffering through God's perspective.

- God's love is demonstrated most powerfully in that Christ died for us while we were still His enemies and justifies us **just as if** we had never sinned.
- Understanding God's love is crucial for fully embracing the benefits of justification.

### GOING DEEPER:

#### Questions:

1. What is the difference between 'peace with God' and 'peace of God'? Why is this distinction important?
2. How does understanding God's love help us trust in the benefits of justification?

**3. In what ways have you experienced access to God's grace in your daily life?**

**4. What does biblical hope mean, and how is it different from worldly hope?**

**5. How does knowing that Christ died for us 'while we were still enemies' impact your view of God's love?**

**6. How can we maintain hope during difficult seasons of life?**

## **ACTION STEP**

This week, spend 15 minutes each day reflecting on God's love for you, particularly focusing on the truth that He loved you even when you were His enemy. Journal about how this



understanding changes your perspective on current challenges you're facing.

*Romans 5:1-11*

*5 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. 3 Not only so, but we[c] also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.*

*6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might*



*possibly dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! 10 For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! 11 Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.*