

SERIES – GOING DEEPER INTO CHRIST
BIG Words, BOLD Ideas
Romans 3:21-26

Turn your day over to the Lord as you step out of bed. Ask him to live through you before you walk out the door. And then every few hours just stop for a minute to see how you're doing, or rather to see how you're doing letting him live through you.

I. Background to Romans chapters 2-3

- Christianity started out as a sect of Judaism
- The apostles had to help Jewish and Gentile Christians get along in the Church
- Jews were used to being separated from Gentiles
- Jews and Gentiles had negative views of one another
- Paul addresses these issues in Romans

II. Paul's Instructions to Christians in the Roman Church

- Neither Jews nor Gentiles should judge one another
- Circumcision means nothing if you judge your Gentile brothers and sisters
- Your heart needs circumcised – fully committed to the Lord
- One does not become righteous by obeying the Law
- Righteousness comes through faith as we participate and share in Christ's life

III. Paul's BIG Words and BOLD Ideas

- Justification = acquitted of wrongdoing, innocent
 - Because of Christ's sacrifice we are justified, innocent, and free of guilt before God
- Redemption = set free, liberated like when a master frees a slave
 - Because of Christ's faithfulness, we have been liberated from the power of sin; we have access to his power to help us live faithful lives
- Atonement or Propitiation = make amends
 - Christ's sacrifice made amends to God on our behalf

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

Romans 3:21-26 - ²¹ But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²² This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵ God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement [or propitiation], through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— ²⁶ he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.