

“Justification is an act of God’s free grace where He pardons all our sins and accepts us as righteous in his sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone.” ~Westminster Shorter Catechism #33

*“Well may the Accuser roar,
Of sins that I have done:
I know them all, and thousands more:
Jehovah knoweth none.”*



- 1) Read Romans 5:1-11. What’s surprising, confusing or frustrating about this passage?
- 2) Define justification in your own words.
How would you explain it to a child? Make sure to include both the bad and good news.
- 3) What difference does justification make in our present relationship with God? (vv.1-2)
How often do you think about it?
- 4) Do you rejoice in the midst of your suffering? How does justification help you do that?
What is God doing in you through suffering? Think of a time you went through hardship.
Did it help you focus on God and prayer more? Did it make you tougher? Did it strengthen your hope in the gospel? Did you experience God’s nearness in fuller way? Why not?
- 5) What’s the Holy Spirit’s job in your life during suffering? (vs. 5)
- 6) Vs. 6-11 are working to build your confidence about your place in heaven, right now. God says you were his enemy. What’s astonishing about that? How does justification give you confidence that you will arrive in heaven?
- 7) How does justification help you face criticism?
- 8) Take time to pray that we would more deeply trust in our justification by faith alone and learn to rejoice in what we have been given.