

**14 July 2024 – Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group**  
**“The Jew, Just as the Gentile, Is Justified before God by Faith” -- Galatians 2:15-21**

Questions to Answer from the Text:

1. Who were considered “sinners” by birth (v. 15)?
2. What did Jewish believers understand about how they came to be right with God which is the same way for Gentiles (v. 16a)?
3. What did Jewish believers understand about how they could not be justified in God’s sight (v. 16a)?
4. What is Paul’s view about the value of doing works of the law to be justified before God (v. 16b)?
5. What objection did Paul address (v. 17a)?
6. What is the cause of increasing sin in our lives (v. 18)?
7. What is an important work that the law does in one who truly understands it (v. 19)?
8. Why are Christians dead to the condemning demands of the law (v. 20a)?
9. What animates and motivates how the Christian lives (v. 20b)?
10. Instead of trying to live perfectly according to the law, how do Christians live (v. 20c)?
11. In trying to be justified by works in addition to faith in Christ, what does a person cancel out in his life (v. 21a)?
12. If a right standing before God can be obtained by the law, what does this imply about Christ Jesus (v. 21b)?

Questions for Reflection and Discussion:

13. What is justification? [after answering, see WCF 11.1; WLC 50; WSC 33]
14. What is the efficient cause of justification?
15. What is the instrumental means of justification?
16. What is an example of “works of the law?”
17. How might Peter have been accused of making Christ a “servant of sin” (v. 17)?

18. How might you “rebuild what [you] tore down” and “prove” that you are a transgressor (v. 18)?
19. How do some today place additional requirements beyond trusting Christ alone for justification?
20. What is your assessment of the assertion, “The doctrine of justification by faith alone does not save. Christ alone saves”?
21. Will we be more justified in heaven than when we first trusted in Christ for our salvation? Why or why not?
22. What role do works play in our justification?
23. Why is it impossible for our works to be the ground of our justification before God? Does this apply to the final day when we will stand before the LORD God?
24. Why should people know and care about justification?