- 1. Have you ever relayed a message to someone and then found out it was lost in translation? How did that make you feel? What consequences were there for the misunderstanding?
- 2. Read Romans 1:16. Why does Paul feel the need to say that he is not ashamed of the gospel? What about 1st Century Roman and Jewish cultures might have precipitated that statement?
- 3. What rationale in v16 does Paul give for not being ashamed? How is the gospel the power of God for all who believe?
- 4. Read v17. What does Paul mean by "the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith?" Why is this significant?
- 5. What two definitions for the righteousness of God were given in the sermon. Why are both important to understand?
- 6. Read vv18–20. How did we define the wrath of God? What about God makes his wrath justifiable? Why are we able to say that men are without excuse?
- 7. Examine your own understanding of the good news. Why is it easy to slip past this aspect of God's nature when considering the gospel for ourselves or in sharing it with others? How does understanding God's righteousness and his wrath make you appreciate the grace that you've found in Jesus even more?
- 8. As a group, take a few moments to review the assignment from the sermon. What is the plot point? Say it out loud a few times together. What is the key verse? Recite it out loud together. Then, divide into groups of two and practice sharing this first portion of the gospel by reciting the plot point and the verse. And then, in your own words, explain what they mean. Don't re-preach the sermon. Just cover the big idea. Then, give each other feedback. Ask questions of your partner. And finally, debrief as a group. Share what you struggled with and what you found helpful.
- 9. Finally, share with your group who you're choosing to pray for during this time and why. Then, pray together that these people might hear the story we tell and respond to it!