

TO GO

1. Read Romans 3:20. How do we - in today's world - try to justify ourselves through "works of the law?" (If needed, turn to Exodus 20:1-17 to see the law of Moses/the 10 Commandments.) Give examples.
2. Consider the first image shown in the message ("Sinful Man" trying to reach God by effort & good works). Has this been - or is it currently - an accurate depiction of how you thought/think humanity "gets right" with God? Explain. *If it still is*, do you understand/accept that your sin separates you from God and you *can't* get back to Him on your own? Talk it over with your group.
3. Read Romans 3:21-25a. The word "all" is used twice in these five verses. What do we learn from the verses that include this word? Is there anyone who DOESN'T "fall short of the glory of God?" Is there anyone who CAN'T be saved/justified/redeemed/made righteous? Explain.
 - a. Take time to recite this week's memory verse as a group: Romans 3:22b-24.
4. In His righteousness, God provided Jesus in order to satisfy His wrath against sin (propitiation). This means Jesus received the penalty that you and I deserve. Let's be honest, sometimes we struggle to receive a gift or allow someone to pay for us. How about in this context? Ask yourself and share your answer with your group - "Have I allowed Jesus to pay for my sin/take my punishment?" Why or why not?
5. Read Romans 3:25b-26. According to these verses, what two things did God prove Himself to be? How so? What does this mean?
6. According to Romans 3:21-26, humanity is offered JUSTIFICATION, REDEMPTION, and PROPITIATION through faith in Jesus Christ. Of these 3, which one have you shared as part of your story in the past? Which one do you need to include the next time you share your story? Why?
7. Practice. Either break off into pairs or groups of 3 and share the Gospel story - using the 3 plot points we've learned so far. Here's a challenge... As you share the plot points, weave YOUR STORY in. For example, when sharing Plot Point #2, tell how you consistently "miss the mark." Or in Plot Point #3, share how you came to realize and believe that Jesus did what you couldn't do!
8. Pray. As a group, take some time to pray for your "one." And perhaps, share how you've seen God working in that person's life and in your interactions with them.