

TOGETHER WITH ONE VOICE

We Are Righteous, Redeemed, and Forgiven In Christ

February 22, 2015 - Pastor Derwin L. Gray

- **Open in prayer**

- **Introduction**

- There are moments of truth in your life that will set you free.
- We often choose moments of denial to replace those moments of truth. Why do you think we do that?
- Paul gives all of humanity a moment of truth in Romans 1 and 2.
- He gives us both bad news and good news.
- Can you remember a “moment of truth” in your life that changed the way you live?

- **The Bad News: No one is righteous. Everyone is in need of righteousness, redemption, and forgiveness.**

- **Read and discuss Romans 3:9-12.**

- o Paul said, “There is no one righteous, not even one”.
- o What does this say about all the good things you try to do on your own?
- o Discuss how the following statement changes the way we talk, act, think, and interact with other people:
The only time we should look down on another human being is when we’re extending a hand to pick them up.
- What about those who have never heard of Jesus? Everyone will hear.

- Read and discuss Romans 1:20 and Romans 2:14 in light of the statements below.

The light of creation.

In creation, there has to be something bigger...a creator.

The light of consciousness.

In the fabric of humanity there’s a knowledge of what’s right and what’s wrong.

The light of Christ.

The light of creation and the light of consciousness will focus people towards the light of Christ. Often through dreams, circumstances, and people.

- **The Good News: In Christ you are righteous.**

- **Read and discuss Romans 3:21-23.**

- o In light of this scripture passage, discuss the second value of TC.

- o **The Transformative Gospel of Grace.**

We are committed, through the Spirit’s enabling power, to be a community that invites and seeks out the wounded, the broken-hearted, and the marginalized so that they can be transformed by the Gospel of grace into the image of Jesus, joining Him in His mission to transform the world. We are committed, through the Spirit’s enabling power, to the belief that Grace is Jesus Himself coming to live in and through His people. Life in the Kingdom is empowered by the King of Kings, not human effort. When we understand that it’s all about God’s righteousness (transformative gospel of grace) and what He’s done through Jesus and not about our righteous (human effort) and what we try to do, everything changes.

- o Pastor Derwin made a point about how he felt and acted when he wore his white suit.

- o When you “put on” God’s righteousness you feel and act differently.

- o **You can either be frustrated (dressed in your own righteousness) or flourishing (dressed in God’s righteousness).**

- o Discuss the following statements:

You’re not only forgiven, you’re as righteous as Jesus Himself. Therefore, you’re fully pleasing to God the Father.

Your righteousness comes as a gift from Jesus.

It’s not what you achieve it’s what you receive.

You don’t have to perform to earn Jesus’ love.

The same righteousness that changed you can change others.

Jesus forgives us for our sins—past, present, and future.

- o Take a moment and pray for any people in your group that need to see themselves as righteous through Christ.

- **In Christ you are redeemed.**
- **Read and discuss Romans 3:24 and Exodus 20:2.**
 - o The word “redemption” in Romans is rooted in Exodus. Redemption means rescued.
 - o All of us are slaves to sin, death, and evil.
 - o Jesus came to rescue us, redeem us, and set us free from sin.
 - o Are you living in slavery to a sin? What does that look like?
 - o Have you asked Jesus to rescue you?
 - o Have you asked others for help? When God does a rescuing, He often does it through you and me.
 - o Remember, selfishness doesn’t hurt just you. It hurts others as well.

- **In Christ you are forgiven.**
- **Read and discuss Romans 3:21-26.**
 - o Atonement means to smear over. Jesus’ blood smears over (forgives) your past, present and future sins.
 - o How did that affect you when Pastor Derwin painted the red paint over the words of sin?
 - o Before the foundation of the world He loves you. Are you walking in His love and forgiveness?
 - o You have a wounded healer (Jesus) who can heal those who are wounded (you and me).
 - o Are you a carrier of His forgiveness to others?

- **Soul-tattoo:** Write Jesus a letter thanking Him for His righteousness, redemption, and forgiveness.
Invite someone who has yet to experience this grace to TC next Sunday!

- **Close in prayer.**

CALENDAR

Next Steps

Newcomer Connection
Class 2: How We Live
Class 3: Who You Are

March 1, 6pm @ TC 521
March 15, 6pm @ TC 521
April 15, 6pm @ TC 521

Learn More About What’s Happening at TC

TransformationChurch.tc