

DISCUSSION GUIDE: ROMANS 5:5

July 30, 2017

As we continue in Romans, we will focus in on Chapter 5 Verse 5. Paul gives us a theological truth that Christians often diminish, "That God's love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit". The amazing truth of God's presence in our lives has tons of implications for how we live, and how we focus our hearts and minds on God.

Read Romans 5:1-5, highlighting the last verse.

1. God does not just tell us we will not be put to shame, but that He gives us the Holy Spirit so that we will know this truth.

—Discuss how knowing the truth that God's Spirit dwells within us comfort us as we go through suffering.

—How does this comfort us as we fight sin? Discuss the implications of this.

2. Paul also tells us that God's love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit.

—How does God's love being poured into our hearts encourage us as we strive to love others?

—Do you often find yourself trying to love in your own strength? Discuss examples of how we're prone to do this.

—Do you find God's love being a reality in your life or does it feel distant? Discuss ways we can cultivate experiencing God's love in our lives. (Try and think in practical rather than overly mystical ways)

3. The Holy Spirit is often thought of as the person of God who gives spiritual gifts. While certainly true, the Bible does not portray this as the Spirit's only or even main ministry. RC Sproul says, "the main ministry of the Holy Spirit is regenerating

sinful hearts and dwelling in the believer's heart to sanctify them".

—Discuss this quote then read these verses on the Holy Spirit and discuss their meaning and significance in the Christian life. Ephesians 3:16-19, John 16:7, Ephesians 1:19-20.