

DISCUSSION GUIDE: Romans 5:9-11
August 13, 2017

Romans 5:1-11 is a section in which Paul is reflecting on the implications of the doctrine of justification by faith in the life of Christians. In our text this week, vv9-11, he summarizes his argument by saying that if God has done the more difficult work of reconciling his enemies to himself, then how much more can he be trusted to ensure that he will finish the task? The purpose of this section in Romans 5 is meant to produce assurance, grit, and worship in the life of a believer.

1. As you walk through verses 9-11, notice how Paul uses phrases like "much more" and "not only this".

—What is the significance of these phrases in the context of the verses?

—What blessings does Paul highlight that Christians experience now, and will experience in the future?

—How does knowing we are justified and reconciled now give us confidence and encouragement as we look forward to the future?

2. Paul describes Christians as "enemies of God" who are now reconciled.

—How does this conflict with ideas that most non-Christians have about God? Examples: Is God generally viewed as a friend, a distant being, etc.?

3. Throughout Chapter 5, Paul emphasizes rejoicing in God. This is the peak of his argument in verse 11.

—What is the main reason Paul gives for a Christians to rejoice?

—Christians can easily fall into the trap of simply rejoicing in what God gives, as opposed to God himself. What are some you often find joy and security in, instead of God?