

Romans 2:1-5 Reflection & Group Questions

Personal Reflection and Application*:

How do you know if you are the “you” Paul is addressing in Romans 2:1-5? Here are three ways to find out:

- Do you feel that you are a hopeless sinner, whom God would have a perfect right to cast off this minute because of the state of your life and your heart?
- When you consider how those outside your church live, do you shake your head and judge in your heart; or do you think: My heart is by nature just like theirs; it just shows itself differently. Do you, deep down, think there is no MP3 recorder, or that you can stand before your own judgment when the tape is played?
- Or have you accepted that your own values will condemn you, and that you will need to be given a right standing that you could never achieve yourself?

Questions for reflection:

1. Consider carefully your answers to the three questions above, and then speak to God about them.
2. What are the sins you are tempted to excuse in yourself while condemning them in others?
3. How would you use these verses to speak to someone who thinks that because they are good, they are saved?
4. If you have recently began to respond to the gospel with personal faith in Christ and repentance towards God, and are perhaps no longer trusting any baptism, or prayer, or aisle-walking to save you then tell someone; perhaps a parent, pastor, or friend at church.

Group Discussion Guide:

1. Reread Romans 2:1-5. As a group come up with **a one-sentence summary** of this paragraph. Then consider that verse 1 indicates that this paragraph is connected to chapter one. **List the ways** they seemed to be connected.
2. This paragraph shows the need for repentance. As a group use the context of Romans 1-2 to **try to define repentance**. What is the biblical connection between repentance (2:4) and faith (1:17)?
3. As a group **work together to answer question #3** from the personal reflection section. Before you leave tonight, tell someone if question #4 applies to you.