

MESSAGE GUIDE

Freedom (A Study in Galatians)



Message Guide for
CONNECT

February 17, 2019

- They say, “In life you have to pay your own way.” But sometimes people pay for us! Think about a time when someone paid a bill or debt for you. Was the expense sizable? How did you feel when they did this?

STUDY

The focus of this week’s message is on the theological concept of “justification.” This doctrine is completely vital to understanding how Christianity works! Take some time to look up the following scriptures and answer the corresponding questions in search of a better understanding of Biblical justification.

- A verse that sums up the idea of justification well is 2 Corinthians 5:21. What does this verse say and what does it mean?
- To be justified (in the Christian sense) means that we are declared righteous, or that our spiritual accounts are free from debt. How does Romans 3:23 remind us that, on our own, we can never repay our sin debt to God?

- If we cannot justify ourselves, by what means does God accomplish making us right in his eyes? Romans 5:9 provides a really good clue! So does Titus 3:7.

- So, God does his part in justifying us by providing Jesus as the perfect sacrifice for our sin. What’s our part in all of this? How can we, unrighteous sinners be declared righteous? Consult Romans 5:1, Galatians 2:16 and Romans 3:28

APPLY

- Biblical justification doesn’t mean we are righteous in ourselves; it means we are declared righteous legally before God. What is the distinction between the two?
- What are the proper responses to realizing we are fully justified by God, no longer on the hook for our sin debt?
- If we view our justification through the lens of a courtroom, here’s what it might sound like from God’s perspective: “In light of what Jesus has done on your behalf, you are now declared righteous. Things are now right between you and me. Court dismissed.” Why is this such good news for us? Why is this such annoying news to Satan?

