

Lesson 16
"One sin, one gift"
Romans 5:12-17
Teacher Beth Seifert

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Read Psalm 51:1-6. What does David ask God to show to him here?

What does David acknowledge about his actions?

What does David say about his own conception and birth?

What does this tell you about David's understanding of the impact of the sin of Adam?

Ephesians 4:17-24. Why are those who are outside of God alienated from Him?

(Verse 18) What have they given themselves up to?

What kind of desires do we have when we are living in the flesh?

(Verse 22) What is the source of those desires? How are we to be renewed?

What are we to put on?

Notice how Paul talks about the "old" and "new" in Ephesians. The "old" self is based in ignorance and lying, sensual, innate desires. The new self is renewed, understanding, learned, and all of this in the spirit of their minds, created after the likeness of God, not man.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-21. What are all those who are in Christ?

What has happened to the old self?

How has this been accomplished?

What does God not count against those who are in Christ?

What is the appeal that Paul makes here? Look closely at verse 21. God "made" (that is, fixed Him with the debt we owed) sin for what purpose?

Read Philippians 3:8-11. What is Paul's ultimate goal to gain?

Where does Paul state that his righteousness comes from?

What things must we go through that point back to Christ and what He went through?

Read Romans 3:9-18. Is anyone righteous?

According to this passage, is any one person better than the next?

Paul paints a very dark picture here, but this isn't the end of the story.

Read Matthew 19:25-26. Jesus has just sent away the rich young man and told his disciples that wealth won't get you into heaven; temporal wealth is not a sign of God's approval or of your own righteousness. What question did his astonished disciples ask?

What was Christ's response?

As you spend time with God today, ponder these passages. Realize that, on your own, you cannot earn God's favor or your own salvation. You can't pay that debt. Wealth in this life isn't proof of God's blessing/approval. Re-read Matthew 19:25-26. Remind yourself today that, although you can do nothing to earn your salvation, yet what is impossible for you to do is not only possible but has already been effected by Christ. You can't save yourself; and you don't have to!