

Let's Talk: Day 127

Today's Reading: Romans 3 / Family Focus: verses 22-28

Brainstorm as a family: who is the nicest person in the world you can think of? How about the meanest? Jesus says both are guilty of sin. In Biblical times, the Jewish people thought that by obeying the Law they were better than Gentiles. Paul rocked the Jewish world when he said both Jews and Gentiles are equally guilty of sin.

Questions:

1. What is sin? Is it actions only or can we sin in our thoughts too? How?
2. Who has sinned?
3. What did Jesus do about our sin problem?
4. What do our actions/our works have to do with our being right or justified with God? What does our faith have to do with being right with God? Faith in what?

Let's Talk: Day 128

Today's Reading: Romans 4 / Family Focus: verses 3, 16-22

Use the following illustration to help answer question two. Ask someone in your family to stand up and the rest of the family get behind him. Tell him you will catch him as he falls back. Does this person trust the rest of the family to be there to catch him? Faith requires trusting in the unseen. A person's faith, or lack thereof, is evident to those around them. Did the family member have faith in everyone else? Switch places and try again.

Questions:

1. What did Abraham do that God said counted for righteousness?
2. What is faith? [Hebrews 11:1] How can you see someone's faith? [look at Abraham in this passage for an example]

3. What is a dictionary definition of grace? How does God define His grace to us related to our sin? Have you ever accepted the grace that God offers you?
4. Abraham believed God that he had the power to do what He had promised regardless of the circumstances. Do you have that same kind of faith in your circumstances? What are you trusting God for today?

Let's Talk: Day 129

Today's Reading: Romans 5 / Family Focus: verses 1-8

Think of a person who loves you. How do you know they love you? How do they show it? Do you like being around this person? Why? Can you imagine how God loves you infinitely more than this person loves you?

Questions:

1. Romans 5:1-2 says we are justified by faith. What does that give us?
2. What good things do trials produce in our lives?
3. Can you think of a person who went through hard circumstances, but it led to something good in their life or in the lives of those around them? Do you have a personal example of this happening in your own life?
4. What was God's (aka King of Kings and Creator of the universe) motivation to die for us? How does that make you feel?

Let's Talk: Day 130

Today's Reading: Romans 6 / Family Focus: verses 1-7

This passage is talking about our spiritual baptism into God's family. Once we make the choice to be saved by Christ, we can be baptized in water to publicly celebrate and illustrate to the church what we have already done spiritually.

Questions:

1. How does Paul explain we are "dead to sin" when we accept what Jesus did for us on the cross? How can being dead to sin free us from sin and allow us to not serve sin anymore?

2. How can we walk in newness of life? Who do you know that does this well? What does it look like?
3. How can we be dead with Christ and also live with Him? What part of us is dead? What part of us is now free to live with Him and serve Him? Does it mean we will never sin again?
4. If you have already made this spiritual choice and asked Jesus to be Lord of your life, accepting the payment He made for you on the cross, have you been baptized with water at church? What an awesome opportunity that requires no words, just your obedience to be a testimony to all Jesus has done for you.

Let's Talk: Day 131

Today's Reading: Romans 7 / Family Focus: verses 15-25

If Paul was a modern musician instead of an ancient scholar what do you think his music would have sounded like? The passage today totally sounds like rap. What do you think? Try reading it that way or try country style or Frank Sinatra style.

Questions:

1. What is Paul struggling with?
2. Do you ever want to do the right thing but don't actually do it? Do you try not to do the wrong thing but end up doing it? Give an example. What does Paul say is the problem?
3. Does Paul beat himself up over his mistakes? Do you? What does he say is the battle going on inside of him?
4. How does he resolve this war in himself? What does he decide to do? How can you practically serve God with your mind? Can you do this without knowing what God's Word says? What is one verse you can focus your mind on this week to help you serve Him?

Let's Talk: Day 132

Today's Reading: Genesis 15 / Family Focus: verses 1-6

Today's reading was referenced from Romans 4 on Day 129. Abram's descendants are promised to be as many as there are stars in the sky. Take your kids outside to do tonight's reading. On a dark night you can see a few thousand stars with your naked eye. But God doesn't confine His promise to that. Scientists estimate there may be over 70 sextillion

[7 with 22 zero's after it] stars in the known universe. That's a lot of kids.

Questions:

1. What does God tell Abram? (verse one)
2. What is Abram worried about? What do you worry about?
3. What does God promise Abram? What does God promise you?
4. How did Abram respond? Did his circumstances change at that moment? How will you respond?

Let's Talk: Day 133

Today's Reading: Today is the weekly OFF day

Mystery Question for the upcoming week: Name the three attributes that tribulation produces.

As we have talked about several times, God's creation speaks of the Creator. Take a nature walk as a family and point out your favorite parts. Can you learn any Bible principles by walking and looking around you? (examples: the newness of spring, the importance of roots to the health of a plant, the effect of the invisible wind). The possibilities are endless! Pray that God shows your family something special just for you.