

Weekly Discussion Guide – 10-4-2026

Changed by Grace, Part 1: “Who Knew the Ship Was Sinking?”

Sermon Text: Romans 1:8-17

Weekly Reading: Romans 1-3 | Next Week: chapters 4-5

1. What are some situations in life where people can be in danger without realizing it? Have you ever been delayed in recognizing a problem, because everything appeared to be okay?
2. **Read Romans 1:8-17.** Paul says that the gospel is “the power of God that brings salvation” and that “the righteous will live by faith.” What stands out to you about these verses? What do you think Paul means by “*the righteousness of God*”?
3. **Read Romans 2:29.** Who does Paul identify as really being a Jew, a member of God’s chosen people?
4. **Romans 3:23-24.** Verse 3:23 is one of the most all-inclusive verses in the Bible. In short, it’s just bad news. What good news is given in the very next verse? Even apart from your knowledge of the Bible or Christianity, what does it mean to be “justified”? Can you think of an example where you or someone else was justified by another person?
5. The sermon suggested that sin is a reference-point problem from which we behave. What does that mean? How have you experienced this in your own life?
6. Is Jesus already your reference point—what areas of your life evidence this? Are there areas you still might be tempted to rely on your own wisdom, control, desires, or definition of what is good? In what specific area could you intentionally bring more of your life into alignment with Jesus this week?
7. If faith is trusting God enough to entrust your life to Him, what would it look like in the season you’re in for you to entrust your life to God?
8. Who is someone in your life you could intentionally help take one step closer to Jesus? What could that look like this week—a conversation, invitation, prayer, sharing Scripture, encouragement, or simply doing something together?