

PREACHING CURRICULUM

The Moral Law of God

Romans 1-3

For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

1 REVIEW THE SERMON

LEADER NOTES: Encourage your members to pull out their notes and review the main points of the sermon. (9-12 mins)

Read Romans 1:18-25. What has God revealed about Himself to humanity through the created world? How do people respond to what they know about God from creation?

Is it possible for any human being to simply be unaware that God exists? Why or why not?

Read Romans 2:14-16. Do people need to read the Bible in order to know God's law? Why or why not?

Read Romans 3:10-18. According to this text, what is the essential problem with humanity?

Read Romans 3:21-26. What is Paul's purpose in telling us the bleak and depressing news that we are all sinners? What is God's solution to our sinful condition?

2 ASSESS YOUR LIFE

LEADER NOTES: Evaluate the condition of your lives in relation to the truth from God's Word. Encourage heart examination. (12-15 mins)

Consider this statement: *"We live in a multicultural society where diversity, tolerance, and inclusion are celebrated. It is what makes our country great. Each person has the freedom to decide what is right or wrong for themselves, and nobody has the right to impose their morality on others. With all of the different religions and cultures in our world, how can anyone say that their particular brand of morality is the only true and right way for everyone? People who think that way are narrow-minded, arrogant, intolerant, and bigoted. They are simply out of touch with the complex realities of our modern world."*

What is your reaction to this statement? Do you agree or disagree? Why? Can you spot the hidden contradiction in this statement?

How would you respond if someone said this to you?

3 APPLY THE TRUTH

LEADER NOTES: Create a list of ways to close the gap between your lives and the truth of the Bible. Be practical and intentional. (12-15 mins)

If God has plainly revealed Himself through the created world and our consciences, why is there so much confusion regarding morality in our world today? What accounts for this confusion?

What should be our ultimate purpose in preaching God's law to non-Christians? What should we be hoping to accomplish by doing so? What are some wrong reasons for doing it?

How can we teach God's law to non-Christians, especially in our pluralistic and multicultural society? Can and should we be holding non-Christians accountable to biblical morality? If so, how? What would this look like on a day-to-day basis? How do we avoid merely "moralizing" people?

4 COMMIT THIS WEEK

LEADER NOTES: Call your small group members to make a commitment and get the group working together to follow-up with each other. (9-12)

What would it look like for you to communicate God's law to others this week?