

Bethany Small Group Study Questions for the week of 9/8/2013 -- Romans 1:16-17

1. Paul says “I am not ashamed of the gospel.”

- Why would he say that?
- When have I been ashamed of the gospel?
- What caused my embarrassment?
- Is it the gospel I am ashamed of or something else (myself, other Christians)?
- How can I reframe the way I think about the gospel so that doesn't happen in the future?

2. The “righteous will live by faith.”

- Am I walking by faith or by sight?
- Am I able to trust when I don't know where I am going simply because I know the one I am trusting in?
- When have I succeeded at that?
- When have I failed?

3. The gospel is universal (for the Jews and the Gentiles).

- Am I making an effort to live as Christ would with individuals who have a different background than me (e.g., color, class, education)?
- When I have done so, how did they respond?
- How does the gospel cross potential barriers?

4. "...in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last," (1:17, NIV)

- How do I respond when someone surprises me with a gift I wasn't expecting and don't think I deserve?
- How do I react when I think of the righteousness of God being freely given to me through the power of God?
- What feelings, if any, rise up in my heart?
- What response, if any, should rise in heart?

Bonus Question: when Paul says "the righteous will live by faith", whom is he quoting? Why do you think he quotes from this passage of Scripture?