

Wonderful life “ A Son Is Given”
Romans 4:4-8
December 8, 2024

Isaiah 9:6-7

6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
7 Of the increase of his government and peace
there will be no end.
He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever.
The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

Salvation is gift.

Romans 4:4-8

4 Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. 5 And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, 6 just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:
7 “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,
and whose sins are covered;
8 blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”

Justification is your validating performance record.

Romans 3:21-24

21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— 22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

Jacob and Esau.

Isaiah 61:10

10 I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

Philippians 3:8-9

8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—

How does a righteousness that comes to us as a gift, open up our lives?

It makes you more honest and confident in Christ.
It makes you worship.

Christmas tells us that it wasn't your goodness that God was after but that you would come to know His.

Life Group Discussion Questions

- What did God say to you through His Word during our Sunday gathering?
- What is a memorable and unexpected gift you have received at Christmas?
- Have you ever received a gift from someone and didn't have a gift in return? How did it make you feel? How does it create an imbalance in the relationship?
- How does the doctrine of justification create an imbalance in our relationship with God? In what ways do we try to payback God with obedience and service?
- How does the Biblical imagery of being dressed or clothed help us understand what it is to be righteous?
- How can justification make you more honest and open about sin?
- How can justification make us more confident in God when bad things are happening?
- How can your Life Group help one another apply this teaching?