

## **Romans 2 “The Truth about Ourselves”**

**Romans 2:1-4**

**August 30, 2026**

Romans 2:1-4

Therefore, every one of you who judges is without excuse. For when you judge another, you condemn yourself, since you, the judge, do the same things. 2 Now we know that God's judgment on those who do such things is based on the truth. 3 Do you think—anyone of you who judges those who do such things yet do the same—that you will escape God's judgment? 4 Or do you despise the riches of his kindness, restraint, and patience, not recognizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?

We suppress truth about ourselves.

Romans 1:29-31

29 They are filled with all unrighteousness, evil, greed, and wickedness. They are full of envy, murder, quarrels, deceit, and malice. They are gossips, 30 slanderers, God-haters, arrogant, proud, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, 31 senseless, untrustworthy, unloving, and unmerciful.

It's always easier to see the problem in someone else.

Your personal successes can become a platform for judgement.

Luke 6

41 “Why do you look at the splinter in your brother's eye, but don't notice the beam of wood in your own eye? 42 Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye,’ when you yourself don't see the beam of wood in your eye? Hypocrite! First take the beam of wood out of your eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the splinter in your brother's eye.

Self-examination is critical.

Concern not condemnation.

Romans 1:2-4

2 Now we know that God's judgment on those who do such things is based on the truth. 3 Do you think—anyone of you who judges those who do such things yet do the same—that you will escape God's judgment? 4 Or do you despise the riches of his kindness, restraint, and patience, not recognizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?

God is the better judge.

God's kindness isn't to be used as a license to sin.

Luke 18:9-13

9 He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and looked down on everyone else: 10 “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee was standing and praying like this about himself: ‘God, I thank you that I’m not like other people—greedy, unrighteous, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of everything I get.’

13 “But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even raise his eyes to heaven but kept striking his chest and saying, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner!’ 14 I tell you, this one went down to his house justified rather than the other, because everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

The Pharisee’s approach towards God was to highlight his good things and the weaknesses of others.

The tax collector’s approach was to declare the problem was himself.

### **Life Group Discussion Questions**

- 1.) What did God say to you through His Scripture during our Sunday gathering?
- 2.) In Romans 2:1-4, how did Paul set a trap for everyone that agreed that the world was sinfully broken?
- 3.) Why is it so hard to discern our own sin and much easier to see sin in others?
- 4.) Have you ever confronted someone about the “splinter in their eye?” How did it go? What would it mean to remove the beam in your own eye before helping someone with their splinter?
- 5.) Romans 2:2 tells us that God is a better judge. Why? How should our partial and incomplete knowledge affect our judging of others?
- 6.) How can we be on the lookout for our own hypocrisy?
- 7.) In what areas are we likely to create an “us” versus “them” category?
- 8.) How does the gospel reshape our judgment of others?
- 9.) Is there someone you have been judgmental of? What would a step towards caring for that person rather than condemning them look like?