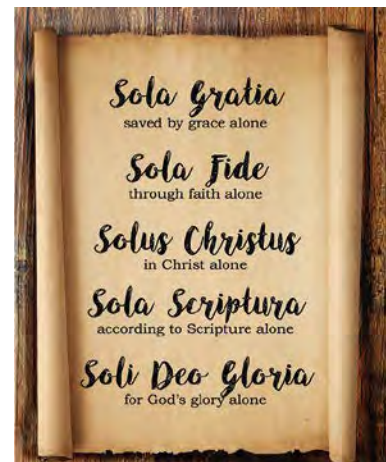


*"Solus Christus" – in Christ Alone*  
**Romans 5:1-11 – November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017**  
for Life Group & Personal Bible Study

*This guide, based on Sunday's sermon, provides additional study and reflection for personal devotions and Life Group discussion. It is not meant to serve as a full Bible study curriculum, exhaustive commentary, or complete Life Group itinerary, but simply as a helpful resource for further study. Feel free to use these thoughts below as you enjoy your time in God's Word!*



**1) Backgrounds**

Ever failed a test? Certification? Interview? Inspection? Big game? Project? How'd that make you feel? Why? Imagine Luther's depression: never living up to God's standard.

**2) Read Romans 5:1-11 again and think back over Sunday's sermon.**

What points of the sermon or this passage resonated with you?  
What questions came to mind? How were you challenged?

**3) Understanding the Passage**

What did the Apostle Paul mean by the term "justified" (Romans 4:25, 5:1,9)? What aspects of our salvation experience does *justification* address? What other aspects of our salvation that it does not cover?

Review Romans 5:1,10,11. How did Paul define "reconciliation" here? How is this way of looking at our salvation experience unique?

**4) Digging Deeper**

Read Galatians 2:15-21. What further insights does Paul give us here about justification? About Christ? How do these truths help us understand Romans 5:1-11 better?

Read 1 Timothy 2:5-6. How does Christ uniquely fit this role? What does this mean for us? What "mediators" did Luther's Catholic Church place between God and man? What things or people do some churches today unfortunately still place between God and us?

**5) Personal Reflection**

What does being justified in Christ mean for the mistakes you'll make this week? The sin's you'll commit this month? How does this encourage you? How does it challenge you?

Would you say Christ's incredible sacrifice on your behalf moves you to be a super-thankful person? Why or why not? What gets in the way of our gratitude? Why is that?

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Answers to Sunday's "fill in the blanks"  
& other Bible verses

*How'd I gain peace with God, hope after death,  
and God's grace?  
Christ made it possible when He took my place!*



I. We can rejoice because our Justification in Christ benefits us right now! (5:1-8)

II. We can rejoice because our Justification in Christ will benefit us for eternity! (5:9-10)

III. We can rejoice because our Justification in Christ benefits us so greatly! (5:11)

*Before a righteous, perfect God, what hope do sinners like us have?  
We have great hope, now and forever, due to Jesus Christ justifying us!*

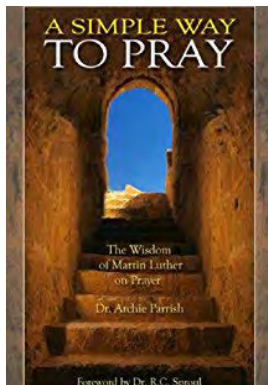
\*Some terms the writers of Scripture use to describe our experience of redemption (being saved by God through Christ), that apply specifically to Romans 5:1-11...

A) Justification: a once-for-all acquittal (being declared innocent). An instantaneous *legal* act of God in which...

- 1) He thinks of our sins as forgiven and Christ's righteousness as belonging to us, and
- 2) He declares us to be righteous in His sight! (Romans 3:24-26, Galatians 2:16)

B) Propitiation: Jesus Christ died in our place in order to appease the wrath of God that our sins deserved, taking our place and our punishment on Himself (1 John 4:10)

C) Reconciliation: bringing us from estrangement, distant from God, into a relationship of close fellowship with God through the work of Jesus Christ! (2 Corinthians 5:18-19)



**Going Deeper:** Want to go deeper? Check out this small but powerful book about Martin Luther's personal insights on prayer!

Complement our sermon series with A Simple Way to Pray by Dr. Archie Parrish, reading each of the 5 chapters alongside the 5 weeks of our 'Sola' sermon series. Each Life Group leader has more information. Read chapter 3 this week.

**"Love Thy Neighbor" idea of the week (Luke 10:25-36):**

Write a note to a neighbor, complimenting their nice landscaping.