

## THE WEEK AHEAD: Week 5



In *Philippians 3:9* Paul speaks about a righteousness that comes as a gift from God and which can be ours through faith. The studies this week explore that theme.

### Sunday

Read the passage that will be preached at the church service you attend. If English is your second language, read the passage in your own language and also in English.

**On the other six days...**

### Day 1

Re-read **Philippians 3:1–9** and think about the answers you gave to the study questions on pages 21–24.

Memorize this week's memory verse:

**“Not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ – the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith.” *Philippians 3:9***

Thank God that we have a “righteousness that comes from God and is by faith”.

### Day 2

Read **Ephesians 2:1–10**.

You may remember that we explored part of this passage in week 1. These verses contain an overview of our salvation.

**1** What were we like before we became Christians? (see verses 1–3)

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**2** Why did God do something about this? (see verse 4)

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**3** Look at your answer to question 1. In what ways did we deserve God's love?

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**4** So what does Paul mean when he says “it is by grace you have been saved” (verse 5)?

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**5** Why is it important to understand that we are saved through faith (verse 8) and not by works – the things we do (verse 9)?

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Pray that you will have a clear understanding of God's grace. Ask God to help you to show your thankfulness for his grace by living in a way that pleases him.

### Day 3

Read **Romans 3:20–26**.

This is one of the most extraordinary passages in the New Testament. It explains what God has done for us through Christ's death.

**1** What does “the law” do, according to verse 20?

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**2** According to the same verse, what will keeping the law not do?

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**3** The word “justification” means being declared “not guilty”. How can we, who are guilty, be made right with God? (see verses 22–24)

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**4** Because God is just, he has to punish sin. Jesus gave his life to pay for our sin. How does this show God’s justice? (see verses 25–26)

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*Give thanks to God for his justice, shown by Jesus’ death.*

#### **Day 4**

Read **Romans 5:6–11**.

*In these verses Paul describes the peace and joy that come from being justified.*

**1** What is so amazing about verses 6 and 7?

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**2** How can we be sure of God’s love, according to verse 8?

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**3** What has Jesus’ death achieved for us, according to verses 9 and 10?

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**4** Why should we praise God? (see verse 11)

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*Thank God for the reconciliation with him achieved through Jesus’ death.*

#### **Day 5**

*Re-read the Bible passages you have read over the past week. Choose a verse that you found particularly helpful, write it down in the space below and memorize it.*

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#### **Day 6**

Read **Philippians 3:10 – 4:1** in preparation for **Discipleship Explored**.