

# Preaching the Gospel to Yourself - Week 2

*Resting in + Enslaved by Christ's Righteousness*

## Week 1 Recap

### Of Class

- The Gospel is not just for conversion; it is also for daily life and godliness
- The goal of this class is to learn how to extract applicable, life-changing truths from the Gospel message and then to apply them to become more like Christ!

### The Gospel

- God, Man, Christ, Response

### Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

- Reflecting on the truth of the Gospel message to stimulate a response of right thinking and right action

### Why?

- Galatians 2:20 – “I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”
- Romans 12:1 – “Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship.”

## Week 2

*Premise #1 – The gospel encourages me to rest in my righteous standing with God, a standing which Christ Himself has accomplished and always maintains for me.*

### How do we know this to be true?

- Romans 4:23-5:2, 18-19
- 2 Corinthians 5:21
- 1 John 2:1-2

### What implications does this have for my daily life?

- I never have to do a moment’s labor to gain or maintain my justified status before God! (Romans 4:5; Matthew 11:28)
- I can now put my energies into enjoying God, pursuing holiness, and ministering God’s amazing grace to others. (Psalm 37:3-6; 2 Corinthians 5:9, 17-20)
- On my worst days of sin and failure, the gospel encourages me with God’s unrelenting grace toward me. (Romans 5:20-6:1)
- On my best days of victory and usefulness, the gospel keeps me relating to God solely on the basis of Jesus’ righteousness and not mine. (1 Corinthians 4:7; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Titus 3:3-7)

*Premise #2 – The gospel not only encourages me to rest in my righteous standing with God, but it also calls me to govern my daily life by this righteousness.*

**Righteousness is my new master. Or put another way, I have become a slave to righteousness.**

- Romans 6:1-23

Milton Vincent – “I am daily called by God to surrender the members of my being as slaves to do whatever this righteousness dictates.”

**How does our justification direct us to live each day?**

- Consider ourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ. (Romans 6:11)
- Let not sin reign in our bodies, obeying its passions. (Romans 6:12)
- Stop presenting our members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness. (Romans 6:13)
- Present our members to God as instruments for righteousness. (Romans 6:13b)
- Be obedient to the standard of teaching in God’s Word. (Romans 6:17)

**What might that look like in your life?**

- Do you think rightly about your identity in Christ? → “I am dead to sin and alive to God in Christ!”
- Is it your daily goal to say, “NO!” to sin and “YES!” to righteousness?
  - Are you daily identifying specific ways to do so? → We do not grow in fuzzy-land!
  - This commitment must begin the moment you open your eyes in the morning.
- What are the righteous works God has set before you?
- Are you regularly studying God’s Word with an eye for personal application?

**What does God promise the outcome will be of a life lived this way?**

- Romans 6:19 – “...leading to sanctification.”
  - Holiness!

Milton Vincent – “It could be said that ‘sanctification’ is merely the lifelong process wherein I joyfully surrender myself to God’s imputed righteousness and then do whatever this righteousness directs me to do.”

- Romans 6:22 – “...the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.”
- Romans 6:23 – “...but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

**Closing Thoughts – Preaching the Gospel to myself...**

- Encourages me to rest in my righteous standing before God, which Christ has accomplished and maintains
- Challenges me to be governed by righteousness in my daily life
- Helps me eagerly anticipate growing in holiness as I say, “NO!” to sin and “YES!” to righteousness
- Reminds me that the path I am on leads to eternal life with God