## Small group optional guide: God's wrath and rescue

## UP; we grow in our love for Jesus through the word & worship

**WORD:** "No One Is Righteous" (Romans 3:1–20)

At the end of Romans 2, Paul exposed that true obedience to God is a matter of the heart, not just outward actions. In chapter 3, he responds to the question: if that's true, is there any advantage to being Jewish or following the Law?

Paul answers—yes, there was value, because the Jews were entrusted with God's Word. But this privilege does not make them righteous; it only increases their accountability before a holy God.

Reading psalm 51 even King David, Israel's greatest king, confessed that when he sinned, God's judgment was right and just.

God remains faithful and just even when His people are not. His righteousness never depends on ours.

Paul rejects the twisted argument that our sin somehow highlights God's goodness or makes Him look better.

> Sin will always be judged, whether in Jews or Gentiles.

None of us can escape it. Paul then declares one of Scripture's most sobering truths: no one is righteous.

No one seeks God, no one truly does good. Sin is not just about breaking a rule—it's rebellion against the Creator. It infects our minds, desires, words, and actions. The Law, though good, cannot save us. It serves as a mirror, revealing our sin but offering no remedy. (...continued)

This leads us to the heart of the gospel: our only hope is in the righteousness of God revealed in Jesus Christ. The Law and Prophets pointed to Him. Through faith in Jesus, not through works, we are made right with God. The bad news of sin's universality prepares us to rejoice in the good news of salvation. There is a cure for the disease of sin—and it's found in Christ alone. Today is the day to receive it by faith.

**Discussion & Application Questions** 

- 1) What are some ways we, like the Jews, might rely on religious identity or good works rather than heart obedience to God?
- 2) How does understanding the depth of sin change the way you see God's grace in Christ?
- Where do you need to stop trying to "earn" righteousness and instead trust fully in Jesus' finished work?

## Worship songs from Sunday:

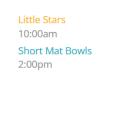
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Who you say I am / O Praise the Name / Living Hope / Build my Life

## OUT; we reach out to show people outside of JCC that God loves them

At the East Grinstead Big Reveal on Saturday 15th November we will have a gazebo giving hot chocolates next to the churches together stall where our carol service will be promoted. We will be running from 430pm - 8pm and need 6 people on the stall from start to finish. we will tell people Jesus loves them and offer prayer to anyone who wants it. Please contact <a href="matt@jcceg.co.uk">matt@jcceg.co.uk</a> if you can serve for 1 hour and help love our town.

Big week coming up this month! See the next page for info







Oasis

10:00am









Pre Service Prayer 9:15am Sunday Service with Communion 10:00am Small group focus week: we are all either single or married, on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November we have a night for everyone. Please go to the website calendar and book in for either evening:



Magiage 26/11 Wednesday 7:30pm - 9:30pm a night of encouragement for your marriage in person at Va-nak-kam in your own home

This autumn, we're once again setting aside an evening especially for those who are single — of all ages and stages — to gather, be encouraged, and be reminded of the unique gift and calling of singleness.

Our prayer is that this evening will **inspire**, **comfort**, **and bless** anyone who is single — whether you've been single for a while, newly single, or simply curious about what faithful Christian singleness looks like today.

Come with an open heart — you don't need to come knowing anyone or feeling confident. Just come. We trust that you'll leave **encouraged**, **seen**, **and strengthened** to live wholeheartedly for the Lord right where you are.

The Marriage date night is an evening that a married couple will be participate either in person at the Va-nak-kam restaurant over a meal or from your own home (no need for baby sitters!).

This event is the home based one where you will collect a marriage date night gift bag from JCC and take part with the rest of the married couples at JCC...just from your home!

The pack for you to collect from JCC will contain some treats, questions and conversation starters that will help bless and encourage your marriage, and point you toward signing up for the online Marriage Course.