

Scripture: Romans 2:1-16

OPEN:

1. Who laid down the law in your home when you were growing up? How did you feel about it? Was it fair, just, or kind?

DIG:

1. Paul has addressed "the wicked" and "the godless" in the last lesson, who is the "you" in vs 2:1 (see 2:17)? Who might these people be today?
2. Since idolatry (1:28) and homosexuality (1:27) were considered very scandalous sins by the Jewish people, how do you think they would feel reading 2:1-4? In what ways might they be guilty of the same basic causes of sin in 1:18 and 1:21?
3. What type of judgment is forbidden in vs 3?
4. What evidence do you see in vs 5-13 that God's kindness to these people has led to presumption rather than repentance? How are they in the same boat as the people in 1:18-32?
5. How do you reconcile 1:17 where Paul says righteousness is by faith with what he says about doing good (2:7) and obeying the law (2:13)? What is Paul's point in each section?

REFLECT:

1. How does the emphasis on God's judgment make a difference in you view your life before God?
2. Has God's kindness led you toward real love for Him? Or do you now take the relationship for granted? How so?
3. Before God's salvation: do you see yourself as a "gross sinner" (1:18-32) or as a "respectable sinner" (2:1-16)? What difference did it make with God?