

Scripture: Romans 5:1-11

Additional reading: Romans 3:25; Leviticus 16:3-16

OPEN:

1. Whom do you know that rejoices in suffering? Why do they?

DIG:

1. In your own words, what does it mean to be "justified through faith" (v. 1)?
2. What benefits are ours as a result of being justified by faith (vv 1-5)? How are suffering and hope and God's love interrelated?
3. What words in vv 8, 9 and 10 describe what we once were in God's eyes? In your own words, define what the four words mean. How does the death of Christ address each of these issues?
4. As you read vv 9-11 what tone of voice do you hear Paul using? Why?
5. Compare v 9 with 3:25 and Leviticus 16:3-16. How does this Old Testament ritual illustrate what Christ did on the cross for believers?

REFLECT:

1. What is the worst thing you've ever experienced? What has God taught you through it?

- 
2. What three words best describe your life before you became a Christ follower? How about now? Why the change?