

Scripture: Romans 10

OPEN:

1. Would you rather raise your children in a pagan society where you have to fight for what you believe? Or in a religious society where everyone believes as you do? Why? What do you think are the main strengths and weaknesses of raising children in each type of society?

DIG:

1. In what characteristic way did Jews seek to be right with God? From 3:20 and 7:7-11, what was the basic problem with this approach? How do you see people trying this same way today?
2. On the basis of 10:1-2, how would you respond to someone who said, "What you believe doesn't matter as long as you are sincere"? How can zeal for God sometimes get in the way of knowing him?
3. How would the attitude of a person coming to God on the basis of performance (v. 5) be different from that of a person coming to him by faith in Christ (vv. 8-9)?
4. Look at 3:22b-24. How does this phrase "there is no difference" in that context compare with its use here in 10-12? What hope is given here?

5. What was the purpose of Paul's series of questions in vv. 14-15? How do these verses along with v 17 emphasize the importance of evangelism.

REFLECT:

1. What is one major way your confession of Christ as Lord has influenced your life?
2. The central affirmation of the early church was, "Jesus is Lord." Everyone else was saying, "Caesar is Lord." Who or what are some of the Gods that compete with your allegiance to Christ?