

Our rejoicing isn't limited to circumstantial happiness and comfort; it's rooted in what *won't change* and in what *will be*.

The Announcement That Changes Everything

Romans 5:1-2

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Romans 15:13

Love the Gospel, Live the Gospel, Advance the Gospel

- Take time to read Romans chapter 4. What is “justification” and how is it accomplished?
- Why did Daryn refer to justification as “*the announcement that changes everything?*”
- What does peace with God look like as described in Romans 5:1-2?
- Why is it so important that we “*warm ourselves by the fire of justification?*” What will happen if we move away from it? Have you experienced that in your own life? If so, how did you find yourself near the flames again? Or are you cold still?
- What happens when we make feelings the measuring stick of our peace with God (justification)?
- What happens when we become overly used to words and phrases in Scripture? What will it take for you to “consciously slow down”?
- Describe the access we have. How did this happen? How is it sustained?
- What does it mean to “*rejoice in the hope of the glory of God?*” Begin by defining *hope* and *glory*.
- What present realities are we actually rejoicing in when we “*rejoice in the hope of the glory of God?*” What future realities?
- What kind of desire / longing does “*the hope of glory?*” put in your heart?

We have to consciously slow down.

Justification = God's announcement that guilty sinners are righteous in his sight through the work of Jesus Christ.

1. Peace: A Change in relationship (Romans 5:1)

Romans 3:21-26; Romans 5:20; Ephesians 2:13; Colossian 1:20-22

Here is “*the solid rock beneath shifting sands of feelings.*”

Ask, "Where am I not believing the truth of the gospel I'm so accustomed to / used to?"

- Romans 5:8

2. Access: A Change in status (Romans 5:2)

"Access" = to introduce / to bring near / approach

Think of this access as secure and continuous.

- Hebrews 6:13-20

3. Joy: A Change in desire (Romans 5:2)

The object of our hope IS the glory of God.

- Jesus WILL appear with great power and glory (Titus 2:13)
- We WILL see his glory and be changed into it (1 John 3:2; Colossians 3:4)
- We WILL share in God's glory (Romans 8:17)
- Even creation will be free! (Romans 8:19-22)

"*Hope*" = Not a wishful thinking but a certainty - a happy, joyful certainty in what is and is to come!