

May 19, 2024



# Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

**The Oaks Baptist Church**  
Grand Prairie, Texas

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&

In Memory of Pat Hester  
6/24/1937—5/6/2024

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:**

God has a door of reconciliation that the apostle Paul wrote passionately about in his letter to the church at Corinth. At his initiative and because of infinite love, God exchanged the broken relationship with humans for a restored relationship through Christ's death on the cross.

**PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:**

God, thank You for not leaving me in a place of no hope, separated from you forever. Thank you that the sacrifice of Your beloved Son, Jesus, has provided a way for me to come to You.

**SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:**

Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

(2 Corinthians 5:18 NKJV)

(From "Our Daily Bread," Nov 01, 2019)

**Series: Examining Our Faith**

**UNIT 3: Standing in the Faith**

**NEXT WEEK**

**Who Has Believed**  
(Romans 10:1-17)

## Reconciled to God Romans 5:1-11

### Lesson Background and Key Verse

Boasting in modern American is often seen as unattractive, even offensive. In ancient societies, however, boasting was part of the culture of warriors as they overcame their foes. Of course, the one boasting had to deliver on the words or risk looking foolish (1 Kings 20:11). But boasting itself did not seem problematic. People often thought of honor as a zero-sum game, "For me to increase my honor, I must diminish yours." Boasting allowed individuals to position themselves in society, as long as they could deliver.

Paul offers a radical alternative to the Greco-Roman understanding of self-promotion, based on his understanding of Jesus' death on the cross. He excluded it altogether because all are in the same position with respect to God (Romans 3:27). Then Paul opened a new possibility for boasting, but not about our triumphs.

Romans 5 depends entirely on Paul's previous discussion of the human response to the gospel found in Romans 4. Paul has argued, based on the experience of Abraham, that the true basis for a relationship with God is trust in his promises, that is, faith. Chapter 5 extends the argument.

Our text today makes an important argument about why followers of Jesus both build their lives based on trust in God's promises yet still experience hardship. Those suffering might wonder whether the new era of God's mercy had dawned or not. In the past, prophets had revealed certain hardships to be God's judgment on sin (examples: Numbers 14:20-23; Jeremiah 21:4-14). Is a Christian's suffering also God's judgment?

Elsewhere, Paul boasted about his own suffering as evidence of God's work in his life (2 Corinthians 4:7-12; 11:23-30). Paul would go on to be executed in Rome in AD 67 or 68. In his estimation, this surely was another opportunity to imitate Christ (Philippians 1:21; 3:7-11). The transformation to be like Christ has several parts, including a new understanding of suffering, reconciliation, growing friendship with God, and ultimately rescue from the power of sin and death. Paul explores each dimension of these implications in today's text.

**Key Verse: Rom 5:1**

*Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,*

## NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

### **MAJOR THEME ANALYSIS**

#### **Reconciliation Through Rejoicing In Hope (Rom 5:1-5)**

##### Hope can bring peace (1)

Peace that comes as a part of the Kingdom of God (Rom 14:17-18)

Peace that Jesus brought by destroying the barrier (Eph 2:14-16)

Peace that comes through the blood of Jesus (Col 1:19-20)

Peace that comes from the God of peace (1 Thess 5:23)

##### Hope provides access to grace (2)

Access through the gate (John 10:7-9)

Access through the way (John 14:6)

Access through the Holy Spirit (Eph 2:18)

Access through faith (Eph 3:12)

Access through the blood of Jesus (Heb 10:19-20)

Access through the sympathetic High Priest (Heb 4:14-16)

##### Hope develops character (3-4)

Builds character through Jesus being revealed in our lives (2 Cor 4:8-10)

Builds character through the testing of faith (James 1:2-4)

Builds character through service (2 Cor 9:13)

Builds character through perseverance (James 1:12)

Builds character through the refining of our faith (1 Peter 1:7)

##### Hope comes as part of the gift of the Holy Spirit (5)

A gift that is received at the time of repentance and rebirth (Acts 2:38)

Gift of the Holy Spirit as a deposit guaranteeing ownership of God (2 Cor 1:22)

Gift of the Holy Spirit to signify being a child of God (Gal 4:6)

Gift of the Holy Spirit as a seal until redemption (Eph 1:13-14)

Gift of the Holy Spirit to strengthen and empower (Eph 3:16-17)

#### **Reconciliation Through Jesus' Sacrifice (Rom 5:6-11)**

##### Through Jesus' death (6-7)

Jesus' death brings us to God (1 Peter 3:18)

Jesus' death proves what true love is about (1 John 3:16)

Jesus' death allowed Him to live in and through us (Gal 2:20)

Jesus' death allowed Him to be the mediator of a new covenant (Heb 9:15)

##### Through God's love (8)

Love that prompted God to provide Jesus as our sacrifice (John 3:16)

Love that is incomparably rich (Eph 2:6-7)

Love that God expressed in mercy (1 Tim 1:15-16)

Love that is defined as Jesus laying down His life for us (1 John 3:16)

Love that shows itself through living through Jesus (1 John 4:9-10)

##### Through Jesus' blood (9)

God defined the blood as the atonement vehicle for sins (Lev 17:11)

The law states that blood cleanses everything (Heb 9:22)

Jesus' blood reconciled man to God (Col 1:19-20)

Our conscience has been washed and cleansed by Jesus' blood (Heb 10:22)

##### Through reconciliation through Jesus (10-11)

A reconciliation that brings peace with God (Eph 2:14-16)

A reconciliation that requires a humble seeking of God and a repentant heart (2 Chron 7:14)

A reconciliation of the mind and body (Col 1:21-22)

A reconciliation where God does not count sins against His people (2 Cor 5:17-19)