

BIG WORDS

Word 4: Justification

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Big Word Review

Salvation – Jesus saves

Propitiation – Jesus takes

Redemption – Jesus pays

Justification – Jesus stands

A Crucial Question:

How do I believe God sees me?

jus·ti·fi·ca·tion | jəstəfī 'kā sH ən |

noun Theology

The act in which messed up sinners are made right in the sight of a perfect and holy God.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished. – *Romans 3:23-25*

We have been justified...

By grace alone

But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. – *Titus 3:4-7*

Through faith alone

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. – *Romans 5:1-2*

How do we try to justify ourselves?

1. We measure ourselves by our own standard
2. We measure ourselves against the actions of others
3. We work really hard to gain God's approval

(Continues on back)

Because of Jesus alone

He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. – *Romans 4:25*

“We... know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified.

“If, while we seek to be justified in Christ, it becomes evident that we ourselves are sinners, does that mean that Christ promotes sin? Absolutely not!” – *Galatians 2:15-17*

The Gospel says: God accepts you just as Christ is.
– C.J. Mahaney

Justified – Just as if I'd never sinned.

Next Steps

Women: Purchase the 6-week study **Questions Every Woman Asks** to explore the truth of how God sees us and treasures us. Books available at www.angelathomas.com/#/resources; videos available online or through the church. Contact Wendy at 733-1337 x 212 or wendyp@ctkbellingham.com

Kids Age 5-12: Join **Compass**, a small group environment where kids find out how God walks with them through life and its changes. Monday nights; more information at the Connection Point or online at ctkbellingham.com.

Men: Join a **Men's Action Team** to discover along with other guys how God sees us and what he wants for our lives. Action teams meet Saturday mornings for prayer, Bible study, accountability, small group interaction and opportunities to serve and lead. For more info, contact Everett at 380-9001 or everettleads@msn.com.

On your way home

Seeing is a powerful thing. Try this out: **With the exception of the driver**, try to make it all the way home with your eyes closed. What's different about the experience? What do you miss, and what do you notice that you didn't before?

Small Group Discussion Questions



- 1) If your mother is living, what did you do to honor her this past weekend? If you are a mom, how did your family honor you?
- 2) How do you think your mom views you today? Is her picture of you accurate?
- 3) Which of the big words in the series has affected you the most? Why?
- 4) How did you think God saw you before you learned about justification? How do you think he sees you now? Does that truth change anything in your spirit or your view of God?
- 5) How does being justified change the way you are going to live your life this coming week?
- 6) How can we pray for you tonight?