



December 4/5 Sermon | Romans 5:12-19

UNDERSTAND THEIR STORY

As we seek to understand the story of the people of God in this text, we'll look at the problems being addressed and the solution that is offered

1. Read Romans 3:9-18
 - a. According to this text, what is the principal division in humankind?
 - b. What is human nature like? What evidence does Paul give to show human nature has been marred by sin?

2. Read Romans 5:12-15
 - a. How does this passage clarify the appropriate division in human kind?
 - b. What is the cause of humanity's sinfulness?

CONNECT TO HIS STORY

Read Romans 5:16-19

1. What is *the* one way people can be saved from the condemnation of sin?

2. Does the sacrifice of Jesus automatically save *all* people? How would you rebuttal this erroneous claim?

3. What else is required for a person to be saved? (Hint: read Rom. 6:1-2)

APPLY TO OUR STORY

The passage in Romans we studied this week teaches both the universal brokenness of humanity, and the universal offer of eternal life by faith in Jesus Christ.

1. How do people in your community (family, school, work, etc.) speak about human nature?
 - a. What comments or stories stand out?
 - b. What is the Christian answer to this question?
2. According to our culture, what tends to be the cause of the problem with human nature? Is there a solution available?
3. The message of Jesus requires a response:
 - a. For believers, it means constantly turning away from sin.
 - i. How do you see your old sin nature still active in your life?
 - ii. What is one step of repentance you can take today?
 - b. For not-yet believers, it means following Jesus as savior and lord. For those in your life who are not Christians:
 - i. What is one good question you can ask them to have a spiritual conversation?
 - ii. What is one direct (and short) answer you can anticipate sharing?

Prayer

Close in prayer for the confessions of the people in your smaller groups:

Adoration: What can you praise God for, as a result of studying this text?

Confession: What might you need to confess to God as a result of studying this text?

Supplication: What can you ask God for, as a result of studying this text?