

# Pointing the Finger

Insights on Romans 2:1-16

Pastor Dave Nichols, Grace Point Church, September 24,  
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## How do we respond?

(Romans 2:1-16, 2 Samuel 12:1-15, Matthew 7:1-6, Ephesians 2:8-9)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ doesn't save you.
2. God is the \_\_\_\_\_
3. God's \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
should lead \_\_\_\_\_.
4. We will be \_\_\_\_\_ by our \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Don't dismiss the \_\_\_\_\_  
God has placed within us.

## Truths to take home...

- We aren't saved by...  
but by...
- Keep a...

## This weeks discussion guide:

### Welcome to "Week 3" of our small group session!

We are glad that you have decided to take this journey digging into God's Word with others. We pray this is a time of growth, encouragement, and fun as you deepen friendships and make new friends along the way! This is a 10 week session of small groups as we will wrap up the week of November 12th.

### Looking Back:

Each week we'll look and have an opportunity to share with our group how the week went and also share a few things to help us get to know each other better. What is something encouraging or not so encouraging that happened since our last meeting?

1. If you could master one skill you don't have right now, what would it be and why?
2. If you asked the average person on the street to describe God, what do you think they would say?

What percentage of answers do you think would include calling God "kind" and "patient"?

Each week in "looking back," we also want to give each other the opportunity to look back since our last meeting and have an opportunity to share how we applied something to our daily lives that we learned or discussed previously from God's Word.

## Looking Up:

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or needs some clarification?

1. We see in Romans 1:18-32 God's wrath being revealed from heaven against all the ungodliness of the world at that time. In contrast to this we have people in chapter 2 who think they are "better" than those receiving wrath because of their national identity. Read the following passages

**- 2 Samuel 12:1-15, Luke 18:9-14, Matthew 7:1-6**

What do you learn about moralistic judgements from these passages? How do we heed these warnings as we live them out in our daily lives? What Gospel thread would you say these verses cover?

2. This weekend we heard how realizing our sinfulness actually gives us an opportunity to see and respond to the good news of what Jesus has done for us. An important part of being a follower of Christ and part of Small Groups is creating an environment where someone can be honest about their shortcomings. What specifics do the following verses give to help create this kind of environment?

**- Romans 12:10, Hebrews 3:13, Ephesians 4:29,32**

Which one of these verses do you want to focus on putting into action this week?

3. The good news we heard this weekend was that God is kind, gracious and patient with us in spite of all we have done! How do the following verses reinforce this great news?

**- Romans 2:4, Nehemiah 9:17, Psalm 86:15, 117:2**

Is there anyone you need to be patient or show kindness to as God has shown to you?

## Looking Forward:

This last section is based on passages like the one below.

*But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.*  
*James 1:22-25 (NLT)*

Let's take a few minutes to silently pray and reflect back on this last week's message and what we discussed in our group. As we reflect, let's all pray and ask God for a specific application that He might prompt us to live out this week.

To help us as we reflect, here are some possible applications to get us thinking...

- Is there someone you trust with whom you can share something you have been struggling with, to receive encouragement, accountability, and prayer?
- Is there someone this week with whom I can share the gospel with this week?
- Share your story of how God has help you overcome some sin in your life with someone who is struggling.
- Pray through a check in your conscience that God has placed on your heart. Is there repentance that needs to take place?

As we look forward to this week, let's pray for one another!