

MOOREBANK-HAMMONDVILLE ANGLICAN CHURCHES
QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION
The God who... declares the guilty just

1. Why is it impossible to be declared innocent on the basis that we've also done/are doing good things?

Read Romans 3:21-26 a couple of times aloud

2. Paul says that God's righteousness is available to all human beings without racial distinction? Why is this good news? What does this mean for what kind of people make up the church?
3. What is redemption? See also Romans 6:5-6, Ephesians 1:7, Colossians 1:16-17, and Galatians 3:10-14.
4. Propitiation means a sacrifice which turns away anger and restores right relationship. Read Hebrews 2:17 and Psalm 78:38 and then discuss what this tells us about God's justice and mercy.
5. Why does Paul say that in the cross God is both *just* and the *justifier* of those who have faith in Jesus?
6. How should we view the Christian's current relationship with God on the basis of this passage?
7. What about when you sin – how can you use this passage?
8. What about when others sin against you – how can you use this passage?
9. What about when thinking about abuse and injustice?
10. Use the following verses from two Hymns help you as you respond to this passage in prayer to God:

And can it be that I should gain
 An interest in the Saviour's blood
 Died he for me, who caused his pain-
 For me, who him to death pursued?
 Amazing love! how can it be,
 That thou, My God, shouldst die for me?
 --Charles Wesley, *And can it be?*

On the mount of crucifixion
 fountains opened deep and wide,
 Through the floodgates of your mercy
 flowed a vast and gracious tide.
 Here is love like mighty rivers
 poured unceasing from above.
 Heaven's peace and perfect justice
 kissed a guilty world in love.
 --William Rees, *Here is love vast as the ocean*

Behold the man upon a cross
 My sin upon His shoulders,
 Ashamed I hear my mocking voice,
 Call out among the scoffers
 It was my sin that held him there
 Until it was accomplished.
 His dying breath has brought me life
 I know that it is finished.

--Stuart Townend, *How deep the Father's love for us*