

THE WORLD IS NOT GOD'S FRIEND

Family Devotion — Lesson 36

MEMORY VERSE—GALATIANS 3:24

“Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.”

- The purpose of the law is to show us that we need a Saviour (Gal.3:24). A schoolmaster brought little kids to school so they could be taught. The law is like that, in that it teaches us we are sinners and need to be rescued from sin's penalty—hell. The law brings so much guilt that it actually shuts the mouth (Rom.3:19).
- Due to a sin nature that every person has (Rom. 5:12), THE WORLD IS NOT GOD'S FRIEND. Read Romans 3:10-23 and see how sinful and depraved the world is. Notice these ten things:
 - Man is not righteous
 - Man does not understand God or seek God
 - Man goes out of God's way
 - Man is unprofitable without God
 - Man does nothing good apart from God
 - Man has a mouth that is full of evil
 - Man is easily provoked to murder
 - Man destroys and brings depression
 - Man cannot know peace apart from God
 - Man does not fear God
- The world is not God's friend, but God has been a friend to the world. God is *“not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance”* (2 Pet. 3:9). *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved”* (Jn. 3:16-17).
- The world has been trying to destroy God's law by ignoring it, making fun of it, not allowing it to be displayed in public places, and promoting the direct opposite of what it teaches.
- The religious world also abuses God's law by teaching that obedience to the law can get you to Heaven. This is an attempt to bypass Jesus and the grace of God. Galatians 2:16, *“Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.”*

QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS

- If a person does not realize they are guilty of breaking God's law, will they see their need for Jesus?
- What does the word justified mean? (To be declared righteous by God) How is a person justified?

PRAYER TIME

- Thank God for teaching you that you are a sinner in need of a Saviour.
- Pray for God to help you see yourself the way He sees you—a sinner saved by grace.

CHALLENGE

- Tell someone the purpose of God's law this week and explain to them how to be saved.