

Sermon Discussion Questions

"God's Incredible Compassion" Romans 2:1-3:9 August 28, 2016

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Opener:

When you were young, what parent or teacher of yours was strict? Merciful? Consistent? What did you learn?

Questions:

[The following questions are meant to supplement the sermon, to try and offer additional points of interaction with the selected text. Feel free to ask your group your own questions regarding the sermon or text].

- 1. In what ways does God's kindness lead to repentance (2:4)?
- 2. In light of 2:17-29, what are some customs or rituals we follow -- personally or in church -- that are important to us?
- 3. How is "circumcision of the heart" acquired (2:29), and what does it mean (see Dt 10:16; 30:6; Jer 4:4)?

What is the genuine mark of God's family?

Application:

4. From your experience, is it easier for those who grew up in a Christian environment to appreciate God's grace, or someone who had no religious training as a child?

What are some of the advantages of growing up in a Christian environment? What are the potential disadvantages?

- 5. Are you more likely to be agitated by the immaturity of new Christians in the gray areas ... or be slighted by those who get upset over issues in the gray areas, such as social drinking?
- 6. Have you ever felt your faith had become more of a ritual than anything else? Elaborate.
- 7. Take some time to pray together as a group, silently or aloud, and ask God to show you where he may want to renew or reactivate your faith. Take a moment to sit together in silence to hear how God might be speaking to you.

^{*}These questions were adapted from *The NIV Quiet Time Bible* (InterVarsity, 1996) and *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998).