INTRODUCTION:

ROMANS 4:22-25 Therefore, according to Abraham's faith, God accounted Abraham to be righteous (4:22). This was not written for Abraham's sake alone; it is also for all of us who believe (4:23). We believe in the God who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, then God will account us righteous also (4:24). Romans 5:6 says, "For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly." God handed Jesus over to die in our place and then raised Him up again to life for our justification (4:25).

LESSON:  I. JUSTIFIED BY FAITH IN CHRIST ROMANS 5:1-5

5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:—

"Justification" means to count someone as innocent or to declare righteous; acquitted of guilt. We've talked about justification in Romans 3:24, even though we fall short of God's glory, we are "being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." We are justified by this act by faith in Christ, which means we are declared righteous, and the law cannot condemn.

Question 1: Why is justification necessary?

- Man has rebelled against God and taken his life into his own hands. He Has become sinful and ungodly and has become an enemy of God, pushing God out of his life, and wanting little if anything to do with God. Therefore, justification is necessary.

- Because He loves man that much. Sin separates; alienates us from God, and this is not what He wants. We need peace with God. Therefore, justification is necessary.

Question 2: How does God justify a man?

- God handed Jesus over to die in our place and then raised Him up again to life for our justification (to justify and make us right with Him).

When a man appears before God, he is anything but innocent; he is utterly guilty and condemned accordingly. He knows it and God knows it, but God has incredible mercy, and wondrous grace. God sent His only begotten Son who was innocent and righteous into the world to die. Christ came to earth to die on the cross, be buried in the tomb, and be raised from the dead on the third day for mankind. When a man believes by faith in Jesus Christ—really believes—

- Jesus' righteousness is exchanged for our unrighteousness.
  - ...He was wounded for our transgressions... Is.53:5.

- Jesus' wholeness is exchanged for our sickness.
  - He was bruised for our iniquities: Is.53:5.
  - the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed Is.53:5.

- Jesus' innocence is exchanged for our guilt.
  - our curse is exchanged that we might enter into His blessings.
    - Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law being made a curse for us... Gal.3:13.
    - That the blessings of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ... Gal.3:14.

- our deadness is exchanged for His eternal life.
  - Jesus' death and resurrection gives us eternal life.

He foreordained justification or righteousness for us, that is, He declared us and began to treat us as righteous.

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This was God’s plan before the beginning for man to be in right relationship with Him and escape His wrath. Jesus restored the relationship of God and man, which came with benefits, therefore:

1. **We receive peace with God.** This is not a feeling of peace, but a state of peace; the sense and knowledge...
   - that one has restored his relationship with God.
   - that one is reconciled with God.
   - that one is no longer alienated and separated from God.
   - that one is freed from the wrath and judgment of God.

“Peace with God” is dependent upon faith—believing on what Jesus Christ has done to reconcile you back to the Father in peace. “Peace of God” is dependent on prayer—conversing with God in prayer which brings the assurance of Christ’s peace in you. Our source of peace is Jesus Christ. Jesus has declared us righteous by faith; making peace for us with the Father by His blood on the cross. Our position is no longer warring against God, but at peace with God through Jesus Christ. None other could have justified us, except Jesus Christ! The promise of God’s righteousness was fulfilled through Jesus Christ. Christ Jesus made us righteous with His righteousness.

**Question 3: What does man do?**

- Man only has to have faith in Christ.

Very simply, God loves His Son Jesus Christ so much that He honors any man who honors His Son by believing on Him. He honors the man by taking man’s faith and counting (crediting) it as righteousness. Man receives peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

5:2 **By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.** We were in enmity with God; hostile toward Him. Now...

2. **We receive a standing access into God’s grace.**

   1We have access to the Father, because Jesus tore down the middle wall of partition and gave us access when He died on the cross.  
   2The word “access” here means “entrance through the favor of another.” The believing Romans were transitioning from the works of the law to being introduced to God’s grace and His kindness. We sure don’t deserve this grace. It is the gift of God through faith in Jesus Christ. Grace is the place to which we are brought; a position into which we are placed. the position of salvation. So, our stance is in Jesus Christ (a place of high privilege) where we...
   - stand in God’s presence.  
   - stand before God saved.  
   - stand in the favor of God.  
   - stand in the privileges of God.  
   - stand in the promises of God.

3. **We receive joy in the hope of the glory of God.**

Grace brings us joy in the hope of the glory of God where we had fallen short, so because of Grace, we are accepted before God. We can now joyfully look forward to sharing in God’s glory. It’s a hope in the future.

**In conclusion,** we are justified by faith, we have peace, we have access by faith into God’s Grace, and we joy in the hope of God’s glory—It’s all through the Son, Jesus Christ, to bring relationship with man and God. Yes, we stand not intimidated, stricken with fear, or humiliated, for Christ has justified us; removed our guilt and shame, and has given us great confidence before God. Therefore, we take a stand of honor and dignity before Him; standing in the righteousness of our Lord Jesus Christ!

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1 http://www.lovethelord.com/books/romans/11.html  
2 http://www.family-times.net/commentary/romans-51/  
http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sunday-school.html
And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;—

4. **We receive character from trials.**

Paul says, not only so that we rejoice in hope, but we also turn around and we glory in tribulations. The tribulation is working out something far more than we expect. Trials and suffering are not something we want to go through to receive one of the *"Fruit of the Spirit"*, but we know that there is going to come forth some patience out of us.

- **Trials stirs patience:** The word *"trials" or "tribulations"* means pressure, oppression, affliction, and distress. It means to be pressed together ever so tightly; all kinds of pressure ranging from the day to day pressures, over to the pressure of confronting the most serious afflictions—even that of death itself. Does glory in them mean to joy in them? Sometimes our trials are not conquered right away. Sometimes they linger and we truly need that access (entrance) into God's presence of grace by faith to be comforted and counseled and shepherded. That means trials don't work against us, they work for us. We can't do it on our own. So, no trial will separate us from the love of God. There is no greater time to have access to God, than in the time of trials. These trials show us how we wait on God's timing; how we persevere, endure, and how they stir us to wait on God.

5:4 **And patience, experience; and experience, hope:**—

- **Patience stirs experience:** *"Patience" means endurance, fortitude, steadfastness, constancy, perseverance.* It is not the spirit that just sits back and puts up with the trials of life, taking whatever may come. We continue constantly in prayer; constantly in love; constantly continuing in thanksgiving. If we can get through the trials, our character is being stirred and built, so we can receive patience, experience, and hope. Know that God is allowing the trials in order to teach us more and equip us with more patience (endurance). Just don't give up! There will be good days and there will be bad days, but, there is also an eternal joy in the end. As we are in Christ, His joy is in us. Jesus knew the joy that would follow His suffering, and He patiently endured the cross to the end.

- **Experience stirs hope:** *"Experience" deals with proven character, integrity, strength.* The process has rewards because we've endured. Your experience stirs up something that one didn't think he had. This is the ability to remain strong while bearing the burden of tribulation. One will come to know much more about the presence of God and His strength while in the midst of a trial. The idea is that of gaining the character needed while enduring with confidence in a trial.

- **Hope** means to expect with confidence, to desire with assurance, to rely on with certainty, to look long for with surety, to trust with the guarantee, to believe with the knowledge. While going through the trial, our experience (proven character) will be stirred with hope (confidence) to become stronger. We draw closer to God the more we hope for the glory of God.

5:5 **And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.**

5. **We receive the love of God within.**

Having already been justified, and belonging to God, our hope cannot lead to disappointment, for we have received God's love in our hearts. Hope never shames, never disappoints, deludes, deceives, confounds, or confuse because *God has proven His love by Christ's death on the cross.* Only the believer who is justified experiences that wonderful love of God. God's love is poured out and shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost. It is the Holy Spirit given to us that causes us to love others unselfishly. Mind you, that love will be tested, but it will be proven genuine. The Holy Spirit seals and guarantees our justification. He seals the fact that God loves us, and He cares for and looks after us. It is His indwelling presence that we have this continuous and unbroken experience of God's love. Therefore, God's righteousness is ours, God's love is ours, and the

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Spirit's presence is ours, making us conscious and aware of God's intimate love. So, while experiencing a trial, hope will be strengthened in us, and not make us ashamed! And the Holy Spirit is God's gift who sheds that love in us.

II. JUSTIFIED BY THE BLOOD OF CHRIST       ROMANS 5:6-9

5:6 For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. This was the plan from the beginning of time, but it came in due time; God's destined time, an appropriate time when we were weak, worthless, useless, powerless, and without strength and cut off from God that Jesus Christ was sent to die for the ungodly (those that are wicked, unlike God, profane, having a different lifestyle than God). We really deserved to go to hell, yet it was God who loved us enough to send His only begotten Son to die for us. Now make it personal. I was in a weakened state and ungodly that Christ resolved to die for me.

5:7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. It was uncommon for a righteous man to die for another, yet once in a while or some perchance a man is brave enough to die for a good man; or dare to die for a generous friend. However, Jesus died for the ungodly; those who were the opposite of righteous and good. He died for those whom no man would die for; those who were of no value and of no good.

5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. "Commendeth" means to show, prove, exhibit, and demonstrate. We were sinners, enemies of God, yet God through Christ demonstrated His love toward us. The reason we could not understand this is because we have never known or experienced such a love as this, but He assured and showed us that His love is much greater than anything we know or could know about. He did not die for a good, righteous, godly man, but, while we were sinners; in that hostile state, Christ died for us. Christ died for the bad and the ugly. When God gave His Son, God was giving Himself. He was giving His love to those who did not deserve it. Think about the man that says he would die for his wife or his children just to save them. Well, he knows them, they are family, and it would take a lot of courage to do so. But, what about a man laying down his life for a murderer or a thief? Well, that's what Jesus did, and he knew what we were—sinners (whether little sin or great sin)—still sinners. Think of the enormous price the Father paid in sending His Son to prove His love.

5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

6. We shall be saved (salvation) from God's wrath through Christ. (future tense).

Jesus did not go to bat for us for nothing. Declared righteous in verse 1 being justified by faith we have peace through Christ and verse 9 we are being justified by Christ's blood we shall be saved from wrath through Him while we were still sinners (verse 8). We have the assurance of past, present, and future sins forgiven. The blood of Jesus is our covering.

(1) God proved His love by giving His only Son to die for us (5:8).
(2) Even much more, God proved His love by justifying us by Christ's blood (5:9).
(3) God also proves His love by saving us from wrath. The blood of Jesus shed has declared us not guilty (5:9).

III. JUSTIFIED BY THE LIFE OF CHRIST       ROMANS 5:10-11

5:10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. "Reconciliation" is the initial act, the removal of the load of guilt, justification, restoration of a broken relationship. Three points to consider in this verse:

1. Sin broke the relationship between God and man. Our sin alienated us from Him, and we therefore became an enemy of God—sinners, the ungodly of this world. The sinner cannot be said to be a friend of God, for he opposes what God stands for. When any of us sin, we work against God and promote evil by word and example.

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a. An enemy of God lives for himself, while God shows us that He does not live for Himself, He gave up His only Son to die for us in the most supreme way possible.

b. An enemy of God lives for the world and the temporal worldly things that passes away, while God shows us that He does not. God has provided eternal life for man through the death of His Son.

2. **Man is reconciled to God by the death of His Son Jesus Christ.** "Reconciliation" means bringing again into unity, harmony, or agreement what has been alienated. God takes the initiative. 2 Corinthians 5:18 says that "God who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ." We become reconciled by the death of God's Son.
   a. God accepted the death of Jesus Christ for the death of the man.
   b. God accepted the sins bore by Christ as the sins committed by the man.
   c. God accepted the condemnation bore by Christ as the condemnation due to the man.

3. **We shall be saved by His life.** Now that we are no longer in enmity with God, but reconciled by the death of God's Son, much more we are saved by His life. While Jesus had to die, He also had to be raised to life, so we could be raised to life. He was raised for our justification. He makes continual intercession for us. Heb.7:25 says "...to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him..." The life of Jesus Christ did not take away the penalty of our sins, His death did. But Christ ever lives standing before God as our Intercessor and Mediator. God accepts and saves us because we trust Christ as our living Lord.

5:11 **And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.**

7. **We receive atonement (reconciled to God).**

The word "Atonement" means "Reconciliation" which means brought back into fellowship with God. This could only come through the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ. "Atonement" is that which blots out or covers over the sins of mankind. Christ was the needed atonement to reconcile us back to God. God gives us joy through Christ, so that man will be able to fellowship with God again. We are no longer enemies of God. We rejoice and should be overwhelmed in awe of all of what was done for us. We should be joyful because God decided to save us through His Son Jesus, instead of sending us to hell when we were still enemies of Him. Our joy comes in knowing the great love God has for us; what He has done, and what He's still doing for us. And what He has prepared for us in the world to come—a glorious triumphant entrance into heaven. What a joy when we finally see God's glory face to face! There's a joy when I speak His name—JESUS; when I pray a prayer; when I think of His blessings; when I thank God for getting me to this point, and lastly to know where I'm seated—in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. This joy I have the world didn't give it to me and the world can't take it away! I hope you feel the joy because of what Christ Jesus has done. We receive the atonement.

Now to recap: Therefore, in order to not be in enmity with God, God reconciled us to Himself by the death of His Son Jesus Christ. Man was saved and freed from his sins and the punishment that was due his sins. Christ bore both sin and punishment for man and man is no longer in enmity, but a friend when he genuinely believes what God has done to make him acceptable; that God continued to show His love toward man while he was a sinner. It was the death of Christ and his shed blood which provided our atonement and redemption.

**SUMMARY:**

Now, since we are actuallity justified as a result of faith, we can now have peace with God through our Lord.

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Jesus Christ. We have access by faith into this grace we stand and rejoice in the hope of the glory of God (5:1-2). Not only so, we turn around and also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation will work patience. Trials stirs patience, and patience stirs experience, and experience stirs hope. We also find out that hope does not make us ashamed. His love is shed in our hearts by the Holy Spirit (5:3-5).

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us, the ungodly, at the appropriate time. This shows God's love. A righteous man would hardly die for a good man, but that wasn't what God did for us. He showed and demonstrated His love toward the ungodly; we being weak and helpless. His Son Jesus Christ still died for us (5:6-8). Not only by dying for us, He justified us by His blood, and He saved us from the wrath of God (5:9) (5:6-9).

We were enemies of God, yet by the death of Christ we were reconciled to God, and much more, we were saved by His life (5:10). We are to joy in God because we have received the atonement (the reconciliation) through Christ making us friends (5:11) (5:10-11).