

The Life Challenge

"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10

Series: UNashamed
Title: Look in the Mirror
Speaker: Matt Ewert
Text: Romans 2
Date: May 21, 2017



Discussion

Read Romans 2 together. If you want bonus points, start reading from Romans 1:18 in order to get a better feel for context and flow. Read reflectively, paying attention to any words or ideas that the Holy Spirit highlights as you go through the text.

- What does Romans 2 reveal about God?
- What does Romans 2 reveal about people?
- What does Romans 2 say that helps guide our daily living?

Read Romans 12:3

- In what way does this passage highlight and intersect with some of the themes in Romans 2?

In Romans 1:5, Paul used the phrase "obedience of faith." In Romans 2:6 Paul says, **"He [God] will render to each one according to his works."** What do you make of these kinds of seemingly "works-oriented" phrases/statements in light of other statements he makes, such as Ephesians 2:8-9 which says, **"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."**

- Are these ideas in conflict?
- If not, how do they fit together?

On Sunday, Matt used Romans 2:24 as a launching pad for asking what our church's role in the community is in regards to pointing people to Jesus. One of our dream statements addresses our hope in this regard. **"The church we dream of is a community of people so radically transformed by Jesus that goodness and love spill out of them and create tangible, positive change wherever they go. It is a people who make God's kingdom visible in their homes, neighborhoods, workplaces, schools and places of recreation. It is a community that experiences unprecedented favor with others and leads people to embrace Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour."**

- How would you assess the role South Abbotsford Church plays in Abbotsford?
- Do we effectively point people to Jesus?
- Do we turn people off of Jesus?
- What could we do as a church to increase our witness and impact in Abbotsford?
- What role could you play in that increase?