



Amazing Husband Robert Morris

Focus One of the most amazing things about grace is that when we get saved, we become the bride of Christ, and Jesus becomes our husband. We live our lives because of a relationship with Jesus.

Fun Do you like to watch romantic comedies? Do you have a favorite? If not, what is your favorite movie genre and why?

Review Key Scripture: Romans 7:1–4, Galatians 3:1–3

- Romans 6:14 says we are not under the law. However, many Christians think that even though they were saved by grace, they become justified and righteous through the law. That's not true—all our righteousness is because of God's grace.
- The law cannot justify us. Romans 3:20 and 3:28 tell us that nobody can be justified by the things they do. We are justified by faith alone. The early church had this same struggle, and Galatians 3:1–3 addresses how foolish it is to try to justify ourselves through works of the law.
- The law cannot empower us to overcome sin. Romans 7:6 says we have been released from the law just like a military soldier is discharged from duty. Nobody has ever been able to overcome sin because they tried to keep the law on their own.
- Love can justify and empower us. God is love, and it is He alone who can justify us. We are empowered to overcome sin because of our deep love for Jesus. We don't walk in righteousness because of the law; we do it because we are so in love with Jesus.

Group Dynamics Idea

The Thanksgiving season is a fun time to get together with your group. Plan a night and have each person bring their favorite food for an interactive meal together. Be creative. Instead of dinner, you could do a huge brunch where everyone brings their favorite breakfast dish. Or, you may want to plan an evening where everyone brings their favorite pie or dessert. This is a great season to enjoy time together and build relationships.

Discuss

1. Read Galatians 3:1–3 (Use The Message version, if available). What stands out to you about this passage? Do you think we have this same issue today?
2. Why is it so easy for people to feel like they have to work or follow rules and laws to please God? Can you think of times in your own life where you tried to do “penance” or good works because you felt bad about something? If you are comfortable, share with the group.
3. We are saved through faith. What was it like for you when you first got saved and realized you didn’t have to earn salvation but that it was a free gift? How does this still apply to our lives today?
4. Just like we are saved through faith, we continue to grow by God’s grace through faith. What does this look like in a believer’s life? How does a greater understanding of God’s grace help us to truly grow in our relationship with God?
5. In what ways does our love for Jesus empower us to walk in righteousness? What are some of the things we can do to cultivate our relationship with the Lord? Share about a time when your love for Jesus caused you to choose righteousness in a situation.

Take Home

As we conclude, remember the following:

- The law cannot justify.
- The law cannot empower.
- Only love can justify and empower.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your love. We know we are not justified by the law, and we thank You for justifying us through the work of the cross. We ask You to fill us with Your Holy Spirit and Your love so we can be

empowered to overcome sin and to grow in our love relationship with You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip

During the holiday season, people who are hurting or feeling lonely often experience these feelings with more intensity. Encourage your group to be aware of others around them who are really lonely or going through a difficult time. Encourage them to invite those people to your group, to church, or to their own Thanksgiving meal. In a time when many people are hurting, there is also a great opportunity for believers to share God's love with others.