

Peace and Joy Romans 5: 1-11

1. When you face difficulties or stress, what makes you feel most at ease? Is it a person, a phrase, a promise, or some sort of certainty?
2. Verse 1 says: “Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” What do you think the “peace with God” mentioned here has that is different from the general understanding of “inner peace”? How does this peace affect a person's life?
3. Verse 2 says that we “have access to the grace in which we now stand.” What kind of image or feeling does “standing in grace” give you? When we fail, are weak, or fall, what comfort can this truth bring?
4. Verses 3-4 describe: suffering produces perseverance, perseverance produces character, and character produces hope. Have you ever experienced this process of spiritual growth? When facing difficulties, which part is the hardest for you to live out?
5. Verse 5 says that God’s love is poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. How have you experienced God’s love? How does the Holy Spirit help us continue to believe in God’s love even during tough times?
6. Verse 6 Paul emphasizes that Christ died for us while we were still weak and still sinners. What about this fact surprises or moves you the most? How does it change the way you see yourself?
7. Verses 7-8 compare human love with God's love. What kind of people are ordinary people willing to sacrifice themselves for? In what ways does God’s love go beyond human love?
8. Verse 8 says, “This is how God’s love is revealed to us.” How do people today usually show love? Why is the cross the most powerful evidence of God’s love for the world?
9. Verses 9-10 mention that since Christ died for us while we were still sinners, He will certainly save us completely now. How does this passage help you face spiritual doubts and unease? How do you understand the assurance of salvation?
10. Verses 11 says, “And through our Lord Jesus Christ we may rejoice in God.” What do you think “rejoicing in God” means? In our busy lives, how can we cultivate a life that rejoices in God?