

THE WORST MESSAGE EVER

The Pharisee and the The Tax Collector

Our only point of comparison should be to

_____, not to _____.

Our only hope is God's _____ and grace, not in trying to live a _____.

RELIGIOUS VS. NONRELIGIOUS – GOD DOESN'T SHOW FAVORITISM –

① Don't congratulate yourself for being a _____

_____. (1-3)

- ② Don't confuse God's _____ and tolerance with _____. (4-5)
- ③ Don't believe the lie that "good people _____." (6-11)

Don't misunderstand: what matters is not _____ we are, but _____ we do. (12-13)

⑤ Don't dismiss the _____ we are all born with. (14-15)

NO NEED FOR THE GOSPEL?

Without _____, salvation becomes _____; without the reality of God's present and future _____, the cross is

rendered ______ and _____.

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION:

- If you asked average people on the street to describe God, what do you think they would say? What percentage of answers do you think would include calling God "kind" and "patient"? How about "holy" or "just"?
- 2. Read Romans 2:1-5. When people are judgmental of others, how do they reveal both an understanding and a misunderstanding of God's judgment?
- 3. What are the sins you are tempted to excuse in yourself while condemning them in others? Explain why God's kindness might lead people to be either repentant or presumptuous (verse 4).
- 4. Read Romans 2:6-13. What are the qualities of those who gain eternal life (v. 7)? What characteristics do condemned people display (v. 8)? How can Jews expect to be treated by God; how can Gentiles expect to be treated by God (verses 9-11)? How does Romans 3:10-12 inform how you understand Romans 2:7, 10?
- 5. Read Romans 2:14-16. How is your conscience defending you today? How is it accusing you?
- 6. How will those who know God's law be treated compared to those who never heard God's law?
- 7. How would you use these verses to speak to someone who thinks that because they are a good person, they are saved?