

### Going deeper

The Psalms are powerful poems, that use all kinds of imagery to express important emotions. Sometimes they praise God, at other times they plead to God or even complain to God. This Psalm powerfully describes the wonderful release of forgiveness.

### Read Psalm 32

4. How do verses 1 and 2 set the theme and tone of the Psalm?
  
5. Why is the phrase: “and in whose spirit is no deceit” (vs. 2) important in the Psalm? (cf. vs. 3-5, 1 John 1:8-10)
  
6. What was the effect of failing to acknowledge their sin to God (vs. 3-4)? How well does this reflect your experience of guilt?
  
7. How does the Psalmist find ‘justification’ / ‘forgiveness’ before God? (cf. vs. 5, 1 John 1:9) How is this justification by faith alone?
  
8. What other blessings does the Psalm list for those who trust in the Lord, i.e. live by faith?

***Now do the applying it to our lives questions...***



**Week Beginning  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

### Growth Team News

Growth Teams are back again this week. Do join one to find both stronger friendships with fellow Christians and a deeper understanding of what we study on Sundays. This term we are focussing on the key ideas of the Reformation.

Explore Groups also start up again and are still open for those who want something different to Growth Teams or can't make any of the Growth Team times. Why not try one this week?



**Growing in Christ  
to glorify God  
and enjoy Him forever.**

## Faith Alone

*Galatians 3:1-14 (page 1169)*

*Space to take notes on the talk*

How can you be \_\_\_\_\_?

Roman Catholic: \_\_\_\_\_

Protestant: \_\_\_\_\_

Martin Luther's search for \_\_\_\_\_.

The Bible and \_\_\_\_\_ - *Galatians 3:1-10*

Why \_\_\_\_\_?

## Starter question

- ❖ Why is it important for people to feel that their actions are justified?

## Responding to the talk

1. What key point about the Reformation did you learn on Sunday?
2. Read Galatians 3:1-9
  - a. How does Paul feel about people drifting away from the true gospel? (cf. 1:6-9)
  - b. Paul asks them how they initially received God's Spirit. What two options does he give them? Which was true?
  - c. What is Abraham used as an example of?
  - d. How are the Gentiles (non-Jews) justified?
3. Read Galatians 3:10-14
  - a. Why will relying on our own efforts to obey the Law leave us cursed?
  - b. What do we need to rely on to find justification instead?
  - c. How has the curse of the Law been dealt with (cf. 2:21)?
  - d. How does the blessing of Abraham come to the Gentiles?
  - e. Why was Paul so concerned that people were beginning to rely on the Law as well as faith for salvation?

*You may like to do the 'Going Deeper' questions over the page.*

## Applying it to our lives

8. Why do people find the idea of 'faith plus our efforts' attractive? Why should we resist this change to the gospel?
9. What makes justification by faith alone such 'good news'? How can we more effectively communicate that to others?