



Family Devotion #11
For the Week of October 22, 2017

Discuss with your family the definition of the word, *propitiation*. Once you have a definition that works well for all members of the family, discuss Romans 3:23-25.

Word study!

The Greek word, *dikaioo*, means to: justify, to declare righteous, to prove innocent, to vindicate. In the New Testament, this verb almost always bears a legal connotation in which a person is granted the legal status of *not guilty*. According to Paul, we are all guilty and subject to the consequences of our sin. Particularly in Romans, Paul demonstrates that the Law has shown us our guilt, so it is only by God's grace through faith that we are *declared righteous* by Him. Justification-being declared righteous-is not available by means of good works, but it is granted by God's grace alone.

The Greek word, *charis*, is: grace, favor, or cause of delight. In the New Testament, *charis*, specifically refers to undeserved and super-abundant blessings that God bestows on His People. In Romans, grace is God's gift that forgives believers and frees them to live new lives by the Spirit. Grace is the basis for God's justification of sinners. By grace God counts believers among the chosen remnant. God's grace endows believers with the ability to serve Him and others. And grace-not the Law-is the governing principle of the Christian life.

(The two definitions above were gleaned from a book by Charles Swindoll, *Swindoll's Living Insights New Testament Commentary Romans*; p.79)