

## **Suggested Discussion Questions for 2/20/2022 Message:**

### **The Fruit of Righteousness (Romans 5:1-11)**

1. It doesn't necessarily connect directly to this passage, but if you have watched some of the Olympics, have you come away with any spiritual insights or analogies you can share?
2. How do you distinguish between "peace with God" and the "peace of God"? Where does Scripture speak of the peace of God?
3. Ken Boa, in his commentary, makes the following statement: "Peace with God is not one of the benefits of justification by faith—it is the benefit; a synonym, if you will. It is the greatest need of the human race, for if any person has peace with God, all other needs will be met." How does the passage indicate this, or does it lead the list of multiple benefits?
4. How does the reality of peace with God impact your life in an ongoing, felt way? When are you most vulnerable to allow your circumstances to blind you to the peace you have with God?
5. We all have emotional downs. Some days just don't feel joyful. So what do we take away from Paul's discussion of joy in verses 2-5?
6. What do you find most significant about our access to God?
7. How do you respond to the question: Am I more interested in an easy, wrinkle-free, painless existence than transformation of my character into Christ-likeness?
8. Are you in the midst of a suffering? How do you let joy pervade it?
9. Do you struggle with feelings of shame? How does this passage speak to our shame?
10. How does the text make clear the difference between the past, present and future elements in verses 9-11? What aspect strikes you most strongly?
11. What in this passage makes your heart soar? How does it challenge you to respond?