

# appnotes

## DAY READ ROMANS 10:9-15

1

Do you know someone who just knows how to get great deals? Whether they are the Coupon Queen or the Killer-Deal King, some people just seem to be able to smell a great sale a mile away. For the rest of us, we know there is a deal to be had because we hear it from them! The thing is, we all have to hear the news from someone. That's how the information spreads. The same is true in today's passage. The gospel is the best deal anyone could take advantage of—God takes our sin and gives us his clean record! But the only way for someone to hear about it is for somebody to share the news. Will you be that somebody this month?

## DAY READ 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17-21

2

Have you ever seen a video of a soldier reuniting with his or her family? How would you like to be the person that made it possible by setting up the surprise or driving them home from the airport? You would feel honored to be a part of something so special, right? That is the cool thing about today's reading. The Apostle Paul is explaining that followers of Jesus help others find and follow Jesus too. He calls it the "ministry of reconciliation." Which means that you play a part in seeing people reunited with God. Your part is that of an ambassador; you only need to speak the message your sending country gives you. We get to share the truth of God's amazing love with someone who has not experienced it yet. And there is nothing like being there when someone is reunited with God!

## DAY READ COLOSSIANS 4:2-6

3

Sometimes we watch someone do something amazing and say to ourselves, "I could never do that." If there was ever a follower of Jesus with shoes too big to fill it would be the Apostle Paul. In his lifetime he was central to the spread of Christianity to the known world and he wrote nearly half of the New Testament! But did you catch what he wrote in today's passage? This giant of the faith was asking people to pray for him so that he would have a chance to share about Jesus and not mess it up. Paul

knew that the power of the gospel is not in the presenter but in the presence of God. So lean on Him this month as you seek to share his story with someone around you.

## DAY READ ROMANS 3:21-26

4

Do you remember taking the road test to get your driver's license? For many, it was a stressful day with the driving instructor evaluating your every move and writing down your every mistake. You hoped that when you got back to the DMV you did not have too many marks against you so that you could get your ticket to freedom. Many think God the works the same way. We can imagine him looking over our shoulders with a pen and pad in hand, evaluating our every move—marking down every failure. Then we hope that when we stand before God some day that we will not have too many marks against us to keep us from getting into Heaven. Today's reading makes two things clear. No one gets into Heaven by being good enough because all fall short of "getting enough points" to get in. But God made another way by sending his son, Jesus, to die for our sins. You see, we pass the test when we accept His perfect score by faith. That's good news worth sharing!

## DAY READ LUKE 2:1-21

5

Have you ever seen that fun experiment where someone drops a Mentos into a bottle of Coke? The results are fun to watch. The soda comes shooting out the top of the bottle. In the same way, when something we love comes into our lives it has a way of popping out in conversations. When someone loves something they share it with others. That is what happened with the shepherds who met Jesus the night he was born. They were so amazed by what they found that they had to spread the word. We only stop talking about something we love when we take it for granted. Take a moment today to reflect on the difference God has made in your life and just watch it come bubbling out later!

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