

# Read

Romans 10:1-13

# Consider

For this weekend's sermon, I will try to expound the passage on Romans 10:5-13. For most Christians, the epistle to the Romans is the letter from Apostle Paul to explain the gospel of Jesus Christ. Martin Luther discovered the justification by faith alone through the examination of the Epistle to the Romans. He said:

*This letter [to the Romans] is truly the most important piece in the New Testament. It is purest Gospel. It is well worth a Christian's while not only to memorize it word for word but also to occupy himself with it daily, as though it were the daily bread of the soul. It is impossible to read or to meditate on this letter too much or too well. The more one deals with it, the more precious it becomes, and the better it tastes.*

Today, I would like to highlight 2 verses from the beginning and the end of the epistle. I will try to understand the whole epistle of Romans in the context of Paul's introduction and conclusion. Apostle Paul said "through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for His name's sake." (Romans 1:5, NASB) and "but now is manifested, and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, has been made known to all the nations, leading to obedience of faith." (Romans 16:26, NASB). In original Greek, both verses are υπακοην πιστεως, NASB translates it to Obedience of Faith.

Saving Faith is not just the understanding of theology or believing the salvation story of our Lord Jesus Christ. Saving Faith is accepting Jesus Christ as our Lord of Life. As Jesus Christ is our Lord of Life, the true saving faith is an act of obedience – obey the LORD in any circumstances. Let Jesus Christ, the Son of God, our Savior be our whole life. Indeed, Jesus Christ is the role model of an obedient son. In Philippians 2:8, "And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death - even death on a cross!" Jesus is obedient to the Father's will to a point even death, and death on a cross, the most merciless execution. The most merciful Lord is obedient to the Heavenly Father that he had to experience the most merciless execution. It is such a selfless act of obedience.

Looking forward to seeing you all this Sunday.

*Pastor Julian Wong*

# Pray

Dear God, please give me a humble heart to follow to your instructions at all times and in any circumstances. Help me to obey you and die to our will and follow God's will. Let me be flexible for Holy Spirit's guidance and let God be my only agenda. Lord, give me strength and power to follow you at all costs for your Kingdom and for your Glory. In the name of Jesus Christ I pray. Amen.

# Diving Deeper

This week, let us ponder how do we live out our faith.

When was the last time you knew clearly what God wanted you to do but still struggled?

How did you overcome? Or if you failed to follow, what were the lessons learned?

What does "Obeying the Lord" mean to you?

How can we live closer **WITH GOD** in our lives?

How are we being **TRANSFORMED** to be more like Christ?

How is the Holy Spirit empowering us to imitate Christ in what we **DO** this week?