

Lesson 8 July 25, 2021

Seeking Assurance

Romans 5:1-11

Repentance and reconciliation are the focus of today's Bible lesson. In today's contemporary scenario, Wanda will repent of personal failure and celebrate her justification through faith in Christ.

Wanda has been a Christian since her early adult years. Now at fifty-three years old, she serves in the Women's Mission. However, during the pandemic, Wanda became bored, met a friend online and started hanging out with a new group of friends at their homes. Wanda started leaning more on these new friends than she did on God. Wanda struggled with staying connected with Christ. Wanda was not attending Bible study as often and when the Mission Circle sent their weekly "check- in" emails, Wanda's responses were becoming few and far in between.

Wanda, a recovering alcoholic, allowed these new unsaved friends to take her to a dark and low place of drinking. The more Wanda hung out with her new friends; the more Wanda's moral compass began to decay. One night after hanging out with these friends, Wanda got a wakeup call when she drove home drunk, thoughtlessly endangering her life and the life of others. Wanda realized her actions were illegal and contrary to her profession in Christ.

Wanda reached out to her First Lady confessing her faith was on a shaky foundation and admitted her personal failures. After prayer and being guided to Romans 5 by her First Lady; Wanda repented! Wanda read in Romans 5 how Jesus is able to fully reconcile her to God. Even though Wanda stood before God as guilty, justification declared her righteous! The Scripture affirmations of being forgiven and reconciled back to God produced genuine worship from Wanda and peace. Wanda shared her joy and peace with her friends and three of the four became believers in Christ!

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Discuss the benefits you received that came with justification by faith in Christ.
- 2. What have you rejoiced over in life? (e.g., graduation, engagement, wedding, etc.) Discuss how being reconciled to God is better than anything you may rejoice about in life.
- 3. Discuss how peace and joy makes our Christian witness to non-believers effective.