**“What’s the Good News?”**

Going deeper in Romans 3:21-24

**INTRODUCTION** Easter is the celebration of the good news that Jesus is risen. This good news is to be shared. The passages below have to do with the totality of this good news.

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.*

NIV **Romans 3:21** ¶ But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. 22 This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

NIV **Colossians 3:1** ¶ Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. 3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

NIV **Colossians 3:12** ¶ Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

NIV **John 2:19** Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days." 20 The Jews replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" 21 But the temple he had spoken of was his body. 22 After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

NIV **Isaiah 2:2** In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and all nations will stream to it. 3 Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. 4 He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. According to Romans 3:21 how did God solve the problem of us not being right with God? When did the word “grace” take on personal meaning for you? What happened?

2. According to the verses in Colossians when we are in a relationship with the risen Jesus Christ what should our relationships with others be like? What about this is challenging for you personally?

3. If Jesus is the temple (the connection between heaven and earth) then according to the verses in Isaiah what will our world look like with Him in charge?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*Thank God for the grace that He has shown you in Jesus Christ. Ask Him to deepen your faith today.

\*Ask the Lord to empower to grow in whatever relational qualities that stood out to you in Colossians 3:12-14.

\*Pray for our world and that the Kingdom of God would come.

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.*

The good news of the Christian faith is that in Jesus Christ there is healing in our relationship with God, our relationships with others, and for our world. Will you pray for opportunities to share this good news?