

**September 14, 2025 – Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group**  
**“Justification before God” – Galatians 2:15-16**

**Questions for Younger Ones (ages 5-18) to Answer from the Text:**

1. Who had privileges due to birth (v. 15a)?
2. What was the condition of the Gentile (v. 15b)?
3. How is a person NOT justified (declared right) before God (v. 16a)?
4. How is a person justified before God (v. 16a)?
5. What must a Jew do to be justified before God (v. 16b)?
6. What can never be a way for someone to be right before God (v. 16c)?

**Questions for Reflection and Discussion:**

7. How critical is the doctrine of justification?
8. Are people saved because they understand the doctrine of justification by faith?
9. Did Martin Luther discover the doctrine of justification by faith alone? Explain.
10. Can a Christian know that he is justified before God? Why or why not?
11. Can a person be justified before God and not know it? Explain.
12. Can a Christian develop to the point where he eventually is justified before God? Why or why not?
13. What are the positive and negative aspects of justification that the definition given in the Sermon Notes outline highlights? [See *Westminster Shorter Catechism*, Q. 33]
14. What does “imputation” mean?
15. Is justification a “legal fiction”? Why or why not?
16. What is the ground of justification?
17. What are some insufficient grounds that others have given for why a person is justified?
18. How can we claim that justification is by faith “alone” when Scripture does not use the word “alone” as a modifier?
19. How do works play a role in justification?
20. How were people justified before God before Christ died?
21. Do the Sacraments bring about justification? Why or why not?
22. What is the significance of the word “justified” being used in the present tense in James 2:24?
23. Will a person perish eternally if he or she is not justified before God? Why or why not?