

Romans 5:1-11

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I. Introduction.

- A. The matter of giving our lives to people is well worth it.
- B. We want to bear fruit that remains. (John 15, Galatians 5, 1 Thessalonians 2)
- C. The fruit of the lives of people is predicated on the development of the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. (Galatians 5:22-23)

II. Man's entire experience with God is based upon faith.

- A. We try to gain righteousness on our own, but this is impossible.
- B. Righteousness and peace comes directly from God through faith.
- C. We have also obtained access to grace in which we stand. This gives us power so that we do not stumble.
- D. We have finally obtained hope because of our faith.

III. We are in God's training program in which suffering produces endurance and which endurance produces character.

IV. God's testing.

- A. The test of obedience. (2 Corinthians 2:9)
- B. The test of affliction. (2 Corinthians 8:2)
- C. The test of generosity. (2 Corinthians 9:13)

V. God's love. (1 John 3:18, Ephesians 5:25)

Application questions:

1. Why is faith so critical for our relationship with God? How do people generally try to grow their relationship with God?

2. How does testing produce good in our Christian lives?

3. What can you do to grow your faith? Explain.
