**GOD’S STORY – YOUR STORY**

**SESSION 9**

**Getting the Big Picture**

Readings

Romans 3 Galatians 3

Romans 5 Ephesians 2:1-10

Overview of Events

God creates the world and everything in it.

God’s creation is good.

Humankind is given dominion over and responsibility for this earth.

The Fall

Humankind disobeys God and sin enters the world.

Hardship and evil enter the world because of what humans do.

The Promise

God chooses Abraham and blesses him and his descendants.

God promises to bless the entire world through Abraham and his descendants.

“Abraham believes God and it is reckoned to him as righteousness.”

The Law

God gives the Law to Israel through Moses.

The Law instructs the people in a better way to live.

The Law teaches us that we are sinful and cannot follow God’s commands.

God sends Jesus to redeem us.

God chooses to save us rather than destroy us.

Through Jesus’ perfect life & death God justifies us & reconciles us to God.

Jesus’ resurrection shows that God has defeated death and will raise us up into a new life.

We are saved & remade by God’s actions & God’s grace, not by our own.

Justification and Sanctification.

Justification

To be declared free of blame.

Because of Jesus’ actions God declares us free of blame and free of sin.

Paul is very clear that we are justified by faith just as Abraham was.

Sanctification

To be made holy. God will make us holy.

Paul says that whom God has justified he will also sanctify.

God begins sanctifying us in this life, but the work will not be complete until after our resurrection.

**Looking ahead:**

Romans 6:1-11; Hebrews 11:1-3