

We all need Jesus

ROMANS 3:1-20 | 28 OCTOBER 2020

Ever had a bully in your life? Or a toxic supervisor at work? A manipulative friend? Or a person intent on stirring up as much trouble as possible?

We all have probably had at least one of those people in our lives at some point. They suck the air out of the room, the joy out of our lives, and the hope out of our hearts.

There are many instances where we absolutely must stand up for what is right, including when abuse or bullying is taking place, those without a voice of their own are being taken advantage of, or the behaviour is clearly not in accordance with the commands of Jesus.

But we still must always tread carefully when finding ourselves in these situations. Have a read of Romans 3:10-12:

“No one is righteous - not even one. No one is truly wise; no one is seeking God. All have turned away; all have become useless. No one does good, not a single one.”

A bit depressing, don't you think? *All have turned away*. That includes you, and it includes me. All of us.

When we waggle the finger of self-righteous indignation at another child of God, we had better have our facts straight! There are many instances in scripture where we must confront evil (e.g. Galatians 6:1), but it would probably be helpful to remember these verses from Romans 3 while we are doing so!

It would be great if all evil people were plucked up out of our lives, never to hurt or betray us again. But it is not that simple. We all have done evil things at times. And, at times, God allows us to live in the presence

of our enemies to develop in us patient perseverance and courageous resolve in the face of adversity.

All of us have fallen short. All of us need Jesus - the bullies and the bullied alike.

So, this week, why not consider doing something to bless one of your enemies? It can be as simple as praying for your persecutors. Or a random act of kindness. Whatever it is, it is all part of God's magnificent mission to let love and justice shine like the sun!

- Luke Merriman



» WEEKLY CHALLENGE:

This week, do something to bless one of your enemies.