

**Sermon Discussion Questions, May 25, 2010, Guest Speaker,
Josh McNall, “*Jesus Wants to Save Religious People*”
Romans 10:1-4**

1. Define the word “religion.” What comes to mind when you hear that word? Describe what religious people look like and act like? Are these descriptions positive or negative?
2. What is legalism? Are legalism and religion the same? Explain your answer. What are some ways we see legalism in the world today? What do you think legalism does to the gospel message?
3. Read Romans 10:1-4. How did Paul describe the Jews in verse 2? For what were the Jews zealous (for more insight read Acts 21:20 and Galatians 1:13-14)? On what do you base your zeal for God?

4. According to verse 3-4, where did the Jews seek righteousness and where is righteousness actually found? What are ways lost people seek righteousness apart from Christ? Do religious people today do the same thing as the Jews? How? Why do you think religious people seek their own brand of righteousness?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-5. Is the gospel simple or complex? What happens when we add a rules list to the gospel message? Why do you think people are tempted to establish their own standard of righteousness?

Read Ephesians 2:8-10. How do some people flip this verse around? What happens when we put works ahead of the saving grace of Christ?

6. Read Acts 8:1-3, Acts 26:4-5, Galatians 1:13-14. How does Paul know personally about the legalism of being a religious zealot? What are the dangers of living under strict legalism?
7. How does verse 4 address legalism? To whom does this apply? What would the Jews experience if they took Paul’s words to heart? What do we experience? Galatians 2:4, Galatians 5:1, Galatians 5:13, 1 Peter 2:16
8. What does legalism do to genuine faith? In what area(s) of your life are you living under legalism? What steps will you take this week to experience the promised freedom found in Christ?