Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further below. Others may want to send the bulletin size International Bible Lesson home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further below are not actually intended to be the answers to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The Class Preparation Guide includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class so they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible class.

Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. What kind of peace do believers in Jesus Christ have through faith in Him?

Because they are justified by faith in Jesus Christ, they have peace with God. They have stopped being enemies of God. Because they believe in Jesus, God has declared them justified (right). They have peace within themselves. Because their behavior has changed, their conscience no
longer accuses them. In some cases, by asking forgiveness and making restitution where possible and wise, they have peace with those they have wronged. They stay at peace with others when it depends upon them and is possible.

2. *When is boasting wrong and when is it right?*

Boasting is wrong when we boast that our works make us acceptable to God and that we are better than others who do not do the works that we do. Boasting is right when we “boast in the hope of the glory of God” that we have access to by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. Boasting is right when we boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have received reconciliation.

3. *Give one reason the followers of Christ can glory in their sufferings?*

They know their suffering has meaning and purpose and will produce perseverance, character, and hope that does not disappoint.

4. *What reason did Paul give for our hope as believers not putting us to shame?*

(Discuss Romans 5:5)

5. *What were we like when Christ died for us?*

Powerless, ungodly, sinners, God’s enemies.

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