But what does it** say? "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him.

**it = "the righteousness that is by faith" (Romans 10:6)

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT . . .

1. Based on the use of the word "confess" in this passage, what is a "confession?"

2. What does it mean to you to "confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord?"

3. What do you think Paul means when he says we are saved when we make our confession?