



ROMANS

Strong faith for life



● The disappointment we have in ourselves acknowledges our need for the “**Good News**”.

● This sin problem is **everyone’s** problem.

...(Paul says) We have already shown that all people, whether Jews or Gentiles, are under the power of sin. As the Scriptures say, “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.” “Their talk is foul, like the stench from an open grave. Their tongues are filled with lies.” “Snake venom drips from their lips.” “Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.” “They rush to commit murder. Destruction and misery always follow them. They don’t know where to find peace.” “They have no fear of God at all.” Romans 3:9-18 (NLT)

For God sent Christ Jesus to take the punishment for our sins and to end all God’s anger against us. He used Christ’s blood and our faith as the means of saving us from his wrath. Romans 3:25 (TLB)

For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is God’s powerful method of bringing all who believe it to heaven... Romans 1:16 (TLB)

This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. Romans 3:22-24 (NIV)

Righteous = Being made **right with God**.

Abraham was, humanly speaking, the founder of our Jewish nation. What did he discover about being made right with God? Romans 4:1 (NLT)

The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. “I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.” So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran. 5 He took his wife Sarah, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there. Genesis 12:1-3 (NIV)

...the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: “Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very **great reward**.” Genesis 15:1 (NIV)

But Abram said, “Sovereign Lord, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?” 3 And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.”4 Then the word of the Lord came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir.” 5 He took him outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” Genesis 15:2-5 NIV

Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness. Genesis 15:6 (NIV)

What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, discovered in this matter? 2 If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God. 3 What does Scripture say? “**Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.**” Romans 4:1-3 (NIV)

● Faith is not ignoring the **facts**, but **trusting** God in spite of the facts.

4 Now to the one who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation. 5 However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness. 6 David says the same thing when he speaks of the blessedness of the one to whom God credits righteousness apart from works:

7 “Blessed are those
whose transgressions are forgiven,
whose sins are covered.

8 Blessed is the one
whose sin the Lord will never count against them.” Romans 4:4-8 (NIV)

● Works is about **earning** and **deserving**.

● Grace is about **believing** and **receiving**.

Yet he (*Abraham*) did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, 21 being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised. 22 This is why “it was credited to him as righteousness.” 23 The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone, 24 but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. 25 He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. Romans 4:20-25 (NIV)



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- What makes you realize that you, personally, need the Good News? How would you communicate to a non church person their need for the Good News?
- Why do you think Abraham had the faith to pick up and leave his homeland when God asked him to? What would it take for you to be that obedient?
- God makes a promise that seems highly unlikely to come to fruition yet Abraham has faith in God. Have you ever had faith for God to do something unbelievable? (You have, it’s called your salvation..) Is it difficult to have faith for your salvation? Explain.
- What are some “Facts” you’re trust God in spite of?
- Why do we always want to “work” our way to have favor with God? (Could it be control, a lack of trusting God, etc.)
- What does it mean that grace is about believing and receiving?
- What does it mean for our ledger to be credited as righteous? Why is this important?

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Today's Talk..



Finally Some Good News!

Sunday, June 9th, 2024

In the Great Room after service



DOUGHNUTS
with **DAD**

Sunday, June 16th



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