



ROMANS

Strong faith for life



3 For the Scriptures tell us, "Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith." Romans 4:1-3 (NLT)

20 How foolish! Can't you see that faith without good deeds is useless? 21 Don't you remember that our ancestor Abraham was shown to be right with God by his actions when he offered his son Isaac on the altar?

22 You see, his faith and his actions worked together. His actions made his faith complete. 23 And so it happened just as the Scriptures say: "Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith." He was even called the friend of God. 24 So you see, we are shown to be right with God by what we do, not by faith alone. 25 Rahab the prostitute is another example. She was shown to be right with God by her actions when she hid those messengers and sent them safely away by a different road. 26 Just as the body is dead without breath, so also faith is dead without good works. James 2:20-26 (NLT)

Two sides of the faith coin:

- Faith **in God** is what makes us right with God.
- Belief in God **with no action to God** is not faith.

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. 3 Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. Romans 5:1-5

- We can't have the peace **of** God until we have peace **with** God.

6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! 10 For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! Romans 5:6-10 (ESV)

How peace with God changes everything:

- I have a new **identity**.

But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. 13 They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God. John 1:12-13

So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father." Romans 8:15-17

- I have a new **destiny**.

1 John 3:2 Romans 8:17 2 Timothy 2:12 Daniel 7:18 1 Corinthians 6:2-3

A part of this new destiny is:

- We will be like **Jesus**.

Dear friends, we are already God's children, but he has not yet shown us what we will be like when Christ appears. But we do know that we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is. 1 John 3:2 (NLT)

Another part of this new destiny is:

- We will be joint **heirs**.

Another part of a new destiny is:

- We will **reign** with Jesus.

Don't you realize that someday we believers will judge the world? And since you are going to judge the world, can't you decide even these little things among yourselves? 3 Don't you realize that we will judge angels? So you should surely be able to resolve ordinary disputes in this life. 1 Corinthians 6:2-3 (NLT)

- I have a new view of **suffering**.

Romans 5:3-5 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 & 2 Corinthians 11:23-29

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. Romans 8:28 (NLT)

Part of this new view of suffering is:

- We know that our suffering has a **purpose**.
- We know that suffering is **temporary**.

That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. 17 For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! 18 So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

When all hell is breaking loose in life:

- Don't be **surprised**.

John 16:33 2 Timothy 3:12 & 1 Peter 4:12-13 1 Peter 1:6-7 & Hebrews 5:8

I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world." John 16:33 (NLT)

In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted... 2 Timothy 3:12 (NIV)

Dear friends, don't be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you. 13 Instead, be very glad—for these trials make you partners with Christ in his suffering, so that you will have the wonderful joy of seeing his glory when it is revealed to all the world. 1 Peter 4:12-13

- Let it **shape** you, but don't let it **define** you.

1 Corinthians 10:13 Romans 5:3-5 & James 1:2-4 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 Hebrews 4:15

...suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope... Romans 5:3-4



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?
- Talk about the two sides of the "faith coin". Why are they both true and necessary?
- What does it mean that we can't have the peace of God until we have peace with God? What is the difference between the two?
- How important is having the peace of God in your life as a Christian?
- Why is a new identity important for us as Christians?
- Talk about the three sub points of - "We will have a new destiny".
- How does God's peace give us a new view of suffering?
- How do we let suffering shape us but not define us?

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Today's Talk..



Why We Need The Peace of God

Sunday, June 16th, 2024

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