



WHAT IS TRUE SAVING FAITH?

ROMANS 4:1-15 * MARCH 5, 2023

HOW DO I KNOW IF I'M SAVED?

- 1 Because I have _____ to be a good Christian → salvation by _____ (faith in _____).
- 2 Because I believe in God and _____ His will → salvation by faith _____ works.
- 3 Because I believe in God with all my _____ → salvation by faith _____ work.

These _____ faiths lead to _____, anxiety, spiritual _____, lack of assurance, and an over-sensitivity to _____.

True _____ faith leads to _____, peace, and _____.

FOUNDING FATHER & NATIONAL HERO

GENESIS 12:1-4; 15:1-6; 17:1-16; ROMANS 4:1-8

If salvation is something we _____,
then it is something God _____.

- ▣ Works are about _____ and _____.
- ▣ Grace is about _____ and _____.

CIRCUMCISION AND THE LAW

ROMANS 4:9-15

Being justified by faith apart from works
is necessary for _____.

The Law is only good for showing us what
we have _____; it is our faith
that makes us _____ with God.

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION:

1. Briefly describe a situation in which you felt hopeless. Talk about Abram's sense of hopelessness concerning not having any children and then having this new God (to him) promising many children.
2. Read Romans 4:1-8. According to Paul, how were Old Testament saints, such as Abraham and David, justified? How do we know this?
3. What are some of the differences between justification by faith and by (supposed) justification by works (see verses 4-8)? Why was Abraham's faith not a work that earned the wage of righteousness?
4. Read Psalm 32:1-5. David describes what God does when He credits righteousness to a person. How does David agree with Paul and Abraham concerning what God does (Romans 4:6-8)?
5. Read Romans 4:9-15. Some people in Paul's day taught that unless a person was circumcised he had no hope of being saved (see Acts 15:1). How does Abraham's experience refute this idea? Some people today claim that unless we are baptized we have no hope of being saved. How might Abraham's experience refute this claim?
6. On what basis did Abraham receive the promise of inheriting the world? What requirements, if any, would he and his descendants have to fulfill (see v. 13)? How does this apply to you this week?