**Exploring Romans**

**Lesson 5**

**Justified by Faith**

Read Romans 4

 Memory Work: Romans 4:7, 8.

 1.a. Today, do you think people still try to depend on their own righteousness to get to heaven? Explain

 b. From Romans 4, why is trusting in yourself, your works, or rites of religion not enough when

 standing before God?

 c. What does it mean to have faith in God?

 d. How does one live by this faith?

 2.a. How was Abraham made righteous before God? Verse 3; Genesis 15:6.

 b. How is this similar to the thief on the Cross? Verse 3. Luke 23:40-43.

 3.a. List some brief facts about Abraham’s faith from the following verses:

 Genesis 12:1-4.

 Genesis 13.

 Genesis 15.

 Genesis 17.

 Genesis 22.

 b. Each time God spoke to Abraham, how did Abraham respond? Also see Hebrews 11:8-12;

 11:17-19.

 c. So faith is an a \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ word.

Challenge d. Did Abraham ever fail in his faith. . .at what peril? Give an example.

 e. So God imputed righteousness apart from w \_ \_ \_ \_ on the ungodly.

 f. Is James 2:14-17 a contradiction to the above? Explain. For help, see Ephesians 2:10.

g. From Romans 4, would what David said in verses 7 and 8 describe your life? When did this happen?

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 5.a. Was Abraham justified before or after circumcision? Compare Genesis 15:6 with Genesis 17:10.

 b. Why is this fact important? Romans 10:9, 10.

 c. Why would trusting in the rite of circumcision not be enough to please God? Romans 2:29.

Think about 6.a. How does trusting God to justify the ungodly glorify Him more than trying to earn His acceptance?

 b. Have you ever glossed over a sin by telling yourself that God would forgive you anyway or that it

 was no big deal. . .at what cost to your walk?

 c. Have you ever tried to earn God’s approval or the approval of others by the way you act. . .at what

 cost?

 7. Circumcision was a sign given to the Jews. What signs did Christ give for Christians today?

 John 13:35.

 John 14:16

 Ephesians 1:13, 14; 4:30.

 I John 5:1,9.

 I Peter 3:21.

 (Feel free to add to this list. . give verses.)

 8.a. If Abraham is the physical father of all who are Jews, how is it that he is the father of us all?

 Romans 4:11.

 b. Back in Genesis 15:5, Abraham was childless. Do you think he understood the enormity of God’s

 promise in that verse? Explain.

 c. Or, do you believe he had such faith? (Back up your answer with Scripture.)

 d. From verse 13, what heir of the world would this be?

 9.a. What obstacles did Abraham have to overcome to have a child. . .and Sarah?

 b. Who were they both counting on?

 c. Why was this written to us? Verses 23-25.

 d. In your own life, are you counting on God’s promises as Abraham and Sarah did? Please share.

Think about e. Do you have a dead situation in your life today that needs God’s resurrection power?