

### The Heart of the Matter

12. In the past, did you ever believe that you needed to somehow earn God's favor, His blessing, or access to His kingdom? What helped you understand that His righteousness and grace is only available to you through faith?

13. How does Paul's teaching in this passage effect your understanding of God's grace toward you?

14. In what area of your life do you need to take a lesson from Abraham and not focus on "working" but on "believing?"

15. Who do you know who is still trying to earn their way to heaven that needs to hear the message of God's grace that comes through faith alone? When will you talk with them?

### Praises and Prayer Requests:



## Life Group Study Guide

### The Grace of His Righteousness Romans 4:1-25 For the Week of November 17, 2019

#### Getting Started

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling?
2. When you were growing up, what chores were you expected to do around the house? Did your parents pay you?
3. What is the biggest infomercial scam or junk mail offer you have ever fallen for? What kind of offer was it?

### **Digging Deeper**

4. In verses 1-2 what could Abraham have boasted in? What is so incredibly significant about what Paul writes in verse 3?

5. How would you distinguish the difference between earning something and receiving a gift as Paul does in verses 4-8?

6. What is Paul doing when he calls Abraham to the witness stand to testify in his case for “justification by faith”, not “by works”? Why would the example of Abraham be so important to the Jewish people? Why is circumcision so significant to the church in Rome in Paul’s day?

7. According to verses 9-12 who can have access to God’s righteousness based on Paul’s argument?

8. What is Paul trying to say in verses 16-17? Why are these verses part of the discussion?

9. What can we learn about faith from the example in verses 18-21? Have you ever exercised a faith in a way similar to the way Abraham did?

10. How does Abraham’s faith relate to what God calls us to believe in verses 23-25?

11. In most religions, forgiveness or grace as a free gift is a foreign concept. In other words, you “earn” your way to heaven by doing good deeds. How is the Gospel of Jesus Christ so much different than these other religions and world views?