



# Sermon Discussion Guide

**October 5, 2025** | Romans 4:1-12 | Brad

## **SUMMARY**

Big Idea: Justification by Faith Alone has been God's Message All Along

Last week, in 3:21-31, Paul introduced justification by grace through faith. Now, turning to chapter 4, Paul desires that we know, with unwavering confidence that this has always been how God has saved anyone. Not only is the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus "according to the Scriptures" (see 1 Cor 15:3-4), but so too is the application of Jesus' saving work to sinners. Such saving benefit has always been accessed by grace (not merit), through faith (not works.) Because of how God designed the gospel, it's specifically tailored to be applicable to all, not secluded or restricted to one people group.

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

### **Intro:**

1. What are some song lyrics that you have misheard?
  - a. How does that relate to how we are also prone to mishear the gospel?

### **Read Romans 4:1-8.**

2. Why does Paul bring up Abraham?
  - a. What Abraham find or learn to be true about how sinners are made right with God?
  - b. How does what he learned affect you?
  - c. Why is it so appealing to you (and to the world) to think that justification (right standing and acceptance with God) is based on merit and works?
3. What contribution does David (Psalm 32) bring to Paul's argument?
  - a. What seems "off" about what Paul says David will tell us, and what Psalm 32 actually tells us? What does this point us to?
  - b. What does God do to us in the act of justification? (double imputation, 2 Cor 5:20-21)
4. See the Milton Vincent quote from The Gospel Primer on page 2.
  - a. Which "days" tempt you more to drift away from relating to God based only on Christ's righteousness? Days of failure or days of victory?
5. If you had 1 minute in an elevator to explain how anyone can be made right with God, what would you say? How would Romans 4 help?

### **Read Romans 4:9-12**

6. What seems to be Paul's point about the timing of Abraham's circumcision?
  - a. How does that impact your gospel-understanding and your gospel-living?

## **KINGDOM IMPACT - MULTIPLY**

1. **Pray, Think, and Act.** Share any developments and updates in the areas below:
  - a. **Reach** - That God would use you to lead 1 person to faith in Christ;
  - b. **Belong** - to multiply opportunities for others to be brought into community
  - c. **Serve** - to begin serving, invite others into serving, or multiplying serving efforts by meeting needs or blessing neighbors or ministry partners together as a group
  - d. **Gather** - to multiply the church (planting, revitalization, helping other churches)

**Milton Vincent, The Gospel Primer**

Resting in Christ's Righteousness (p21-22)

*"The gospel encourages me to rest in my righteous standing with God, a standing which Christ Himself has accomplished and always maintains for me. I never have to do a moment's labor to gain or maintain my justified status before God! .....*

*"The gospel also reminds me that my righteous standing with God always holds firm regardless of my performance, because my standing is based solely on the work of Jesus and not mine. On my worst days of sin and failure, the gospel encourages me with God's unrelenting grace toward me. On my best days of victory and usefulness, the gospel keeps me relating to God solely on the basis of Jesus' righteousness and not mine."*