

Small Group Discussion Questions (Romans 4) March 15, 2018

- 1. Why is it significant that Abraham was counted as righteous before he was circumcised (Romans 4:10)?
- 2. What did you know about Abraham before this week? How does knowing more context and seeing the clarity it brings to Romans 4 change the way you prioritize reading and understanding the Old Testament?
- 3. To many Jews, circumcision was the sole sign they clung to for confirmation of their identity as children of Abraham. Romans 4:12, however, says that children of Abraham will not merely be circumcised, but will "also walk in the footsteps of the faith" that Abraham had before he was circumcised. We may rely on various signs to confirm our identity as followers of Jesus (church attendance, regular tithing, kids in Christian schools, childhood baptism, etc.). But they are meaningless if we don't actively "walk in the footsteps of the faith." Are you currently clinging to a sign to confirm your identity as a Christ follower? If so, what is it? If not, how do you actively "walk in the footsteps of the faith" (Romans 4:11-13)?
- 4. As a group, identify as many promises from Romans 1-4 as you can. Are you fully convinced that God is able to do what He has promised? What promises of God do you have the hardest time believing He will keep (Romans 4:21)?
- 5. Do you "believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification"? If yes, how will it change/impact the way you go about your next week? If not, what is holding you back (Romans 4:24-25)?