

Established and Abounding

Established in: Salvation by Faith

- 1) If you were to survey people and ask them what faith is, what do you think they would say?
- 2) The Bible describes faith (and its verb form: to believe) instead of giving a dictionary-like definition. Answer the following questions regarding one of those descriptions given in Romans 4:16-22. Next, write a biblical definition for faith.
 - a) According to Romans 4:17, in whom did Abraham believe?
 - b) According to Romans 4:18-19, what did Abraham believe God for?
 - c) According to Romans 4:20-21, why did Abraham believe God would do that?
 - d) According to Romans 4:19-20, what evidence is there that Abraham believed God?
 - e) After looking at that example, especially from verses 19-21, write a biblical definition for faith.
- 3) The Bible describes faith for all people nowadays as well. Answer the following questions regarding the description of faith given in Romans 3:21-4:25.
 - a) According to 3:22, “righteousness” is given to all who believe. What is this righteousness?
 - b) According to 3:24, those who believe are “justified.” What does it mean to be justified?
 - c) According to 3:22, 3:26, and 4:24, in whom should we believe?
 - d) According to 3:24-26 & 4:24-25, what should we believe God for?
 - e) According to 4:3, 23-25, why should we believe that God would do that?
 - f) According to 4:4-5, what action should show that we believe God?

- 4) Read Romans 4:1-8. What is the difference between working for God to give you righteousness and believing in Jesus in order to receive righteousness?
- 5) In Romans 4:3-5 & 16, the Bible says that grace and faith fit together, but grace and works do not. Why is that?
- 6) Some will argue that if salvation is by faith, people will just keep living in sin and not live holy lives. Think back to past lessons, how does this line of reasoning show a misunderstanding of what salvation is and how it works?

Abounding with Thanks for: Salvation by Faith

- 7) According to Romans 5:1-11, how does our justification by faith change our relationship with God, our outlook on our present situation, and our outlook on our future?
- 8) Do you struggle to look at any of these three areas through the lens of faith? If so, how could you remind yourself this week to see that area of your life through the lens that you have been justified by faith?