

COUNTED AS RIGHTEOUS

Romans 4:13 - 25

Devotional Reading: Genesis 15:1 - 6

Background Scripture: Romans 4

LESSON AIMS: the students will:

- Summarize Paul’s view of Abraham
- Explain faith’s role in being counted as righteous
- Brainstorm ways to celebrate with loving actions God’s blessing of grace through faith

INTRODUCTION: From Corinth, Paul was writing to a mixed Jew-Gentile church in Rome. He, therefore, needed to address the issue of what defines God’s people, especially since Jews prided themselves on being God’s people because of their adherence to the Law of Moses. Paul argued that God’s people were those who put their faith in God - - their birth was not the determining factor. It was their new birth that made the difference.

KEY VERSE *20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; 21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.*

Romans 4:20 - 21 / KJV

LESSON:

True Heirs of Abraham

Romans 4:13

Supporting Arguments

verses 14 - 25

SUMMARY: Paul saw Abraham as a model of faith despite his shortcomings. Abraham shows that it is important to be persistent in those times when our faith seems to waiver. Paul's goal for the church had always been a place of unity. He did this by reminding them that both Jews and Gentiles were the same - - that all were under sin - - neither group was better than the other [Romans 3:9]. Now, they both have the same basis for a relationship with God. That basis is faith, not law [see Romans 4:16, John 17:11 and Ephesians 4:1 - 6]. If Abraham were committed enough, will all the challenges he experienced, to remain faithful to God for the sake of his descendants [his descendants includes us!] can't we also be as faithful and trusting of God in our daily walk?

QUESTIONS:

1. *How does your life reflect your trust in God?*
2. *Do you react differently to a broken promise if the promise-maker lacks the power rather than the will to fulfill it?*
3. *What does it mean to have righteousness imputed based on faith?*

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DAY / DATE	SCRIPTURE	
<i>Mon., May 6th</i>	God Is Generous to the Unworthy	Matthew 20:1 - 16
<i>Tue., May 7th</i>	A Great and Blessed Nation	Genesis 13:14 - 18
<i>Wed., May 8th</i>	A Promise of Countless Heirs	Genesis 15:1 - 6
<i>Thurs., May 9th</i>	Your Sins Are Forgiven	1 John 2:12 - 17
<i>Fri., May 10th</i>	God's Abundant Forgiveness	Psalm 32
<i>Sat., May 11th</i>	Trust God, Who Justified the Ungodly	Romans 4:1 - 12
<i>Sun., May 12th</i>	Our Justification, Christ's Resurrection	Romans 4:13 - 25