

Thursday

Read: James 2:14-26

My thoughts and/or questions on this passage:

Getting Real TODAY:

Some people misunderstand James' argument for "deeds" as contradictory to Paul's case for salvation by grace through faith. How are we saved? How do you understand James' call to action? Are you living out your faith through action?

(NOTE: James and Paul do NOT contradict each other. Pastor John can provide you further explanation if needed.)

Friday

Read: Hebrews 6:13-20

My thoughts and/or questions on this passage:

Getting Real TODAY:

What are you facing in life today? Refocus on your eternal hope. Allow it to be your "anchor for the soul, firm and secure." Reflect on the cross, call someone to pray with you. How can we help you at Discovery as you go through struggles in life? How has God sealed His promise with you? Have you been baptized?

Saturday

Read: Hebrews 11:1-40

My thoughts and/or questions on this passage:

Getting Real TODAY:

After reading of these "Heroes of Faith," what is God calling you to do "by faith"? Perhaps you feel like reading deeper about the life of one of these "heroes." Don't put it off! How can Discovery help you pursue your next step of faith?

Preparing for this **Sunday** Read: Romans 5:1-21

REDEEMED

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Good Credit

Romans 4:1-25

¹⁶I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. ¹⁷For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith." **Romans 1:16-17**

"Look at the proud! They trust in themselves, and their lives are crooked. But the righteous will live by their faithfulness to God. (NLT) **Habakkuk 2:4**

The Prerequisite of RIGHTEOUSNESS:

Who will live by faith? _____

Who is righteous? _____

How can I be righteous? _____

²¹But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²²This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished-- ²⁶he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus. **Romans 3:21-26**

It is BY GRACE you have been saved, THROUGH FAITH.

-Ephesians 2:8

¹What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather, discovered in this matter? ²If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about-- but not before God. ³What does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness." **Romans 4:1-3**

FAITH: being sure that God will do what He promises.

⁶David says the same thing when he speaks of the blessedness of the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works: ⁷"Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. ⁸Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord will never count against him."
Romans 4:6-8

What happens to our sin through faith in the cross?

- Sin is FORGIVEN.
- Sin is COVERED.
- Sin is not counted AGAINST us.

²⁰Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, ²¹being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.
Romans 4:20-21

**Because I live eternally THROUGH faith...
I will live everyday BY faith.**

What happens to a life transformed by the cross?

My faith: _____ leads to this action: _____

My faith: _____ leads to this action: _____

My faith: _____ leads to this action: _____

²³The words "it was credited to him" were written not for him alone, ²⁴but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness-- for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. ²⁵He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.
Romans 4:23-25

Getting Real

Putting Our Faith into Action

How can we grow in our faith?

- » **Refocus on God's Eternal Promises:** When you struggle with life's troubles, take a moment to reflect on your eternal promise in Christ.
- » **Step into God's Everyday Promises:** You believe in God's eternal promise. What can you trust Him with in your life today? Act on it!

» But first, **Know God's Promises:** God speaks to you in His Word. Interact with God through His Word – you will discover and experience Him!



Monday

Read: *Habakkuk 2:1-4 & Romans 1:16-17*

My thoughts and/or questions on this passage:

Getting Real TODAY:

Compare the context of *Romans* to *Habakkuk*. (In *Habakkuk*., the Lord speaks of saving Israel from enemy nations – this is a tough text to understand!). Why would Paul quote such a Scripture? Is he speaking of earthly salvation from enemies?

Tuesday

Read: *Galations 3:1-14*

My thoughts and/or questions on this passage:

Getting Real TODAY:

Galations was written by Paul - how is his case here similar to what we've studied in *Romans*? What did you receive through faith in Jesus Christ? Verse 14 says we have received "the promise of the Spirit." Are you living by the Spirit? (see v. 3)

Wednesday

Read: *Genesis 15:1-6*

My thoughts and/or questions on this passage:

Getting Real TODAY:

What was God's promise to Abraham? In Abraham's case, God promised to fulfill Abraham's desire for an heir, a son. God doesn't necessarily promise we will have everything we want in life. What promises can you find for you and I in God's Word?