

Through Faith Alone • Romans 4:9-15

MESSAGE NOTES

The gift is righteousness.

What it includes:

- Free pass to heaven
- Escape from judgment
- God is your Father
- Heir of everything that is good

There is only one way to obtain this gift.

Not:

- Getting a tattoo
- Going in the dunking machine
- Signing up
- Hanging out
- Using the password
- Helping yourself so God will help you
- Keeping your nose clean
- Paying it forward

But:

- Believing a promise
- 0% reliance on anything you or another person can do
- 100% reliance on God and what He alone can do

He raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead Who was delivered up because of our offenses And was raised because of our justification.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Romans 5:15-17, Romans 6:23, and Romans 4:5-8.

Why is the theme of our study in Romans chapters 4 and 5 called The Gift?

Look at Romans 4:5 and 6. What is the gift?

According to the message Sunday morning, what does the gift include? (4 parts)

A few people in the group pick one of the four points of what is included in the gift. Share why it is important or valuable to you.

A few people in the group pick one of the same four points and share how it can or should continually impact your life (not just when you are first saved).

What word does the Bible use in Romans 4:6-8 to describe the person who has received this gift? What does this word mean? How does being "blessed" in this way affect your daily life? Pick a few of these and discuss:

How does it affect what you do when you're discouraged or worried? How does it affect your moods? How does it affect your attitude when having a hard day or things go wrong? What about when your boss is overbearing, your teacher is grouchy or unfair, your siblings are getting on your nerves? How should it affect you if you go through a major financial or health crisis? How should it affect your conversations with other Christians? With non-Christians? How should it affect your worship? Your love for the Lord? Your obedience to Him?

Spend a few minutes in prayer as a group, giving thanks to God for the blessings of The Gift.

Read Romans 4:13 and 16. What is the only way to obtain this gift?

In the message we heard some examples of things people do that they think will help them have a relationship with God. Can you think of any more examples?

Is there someone you know who might think he or she can do something to receive favor or acceptance or forgiveness from God? As a group, make a list of people (first names only, or just "a friend") that you would like to have a conversation with about The Gift. Pray together for these people as a group and in your own times of prayer.