





Read the cries of David's heart in **Psalm 51** and jot down **a few** of the verses in this Psalm that most touch your heart and share what those verses mean to you, personally.

**8.** Look back at Paul's words to the Ephesian church in **Ephesians 2:4 & 5**.

Paul had just explained in **Ephesians 2:1-3** our condition before we came to faith in Christ. He says in **verse 4**, "**But God...**" Record again from **Ephesians 2:4 & 5** what God did for us (verse 5), and His motivation to do it (verse 4), even when we were spiritually "dead" in trespasses.

**9.** Looking now at **Romans 4:9**, what question does Paul ask? Write down that verse below.

**10.** Paul makes the point that since salvation does not come through works of the law or from circumcision, but by faith, it is available, not only to the Jew but to the Gentile as well. In **verse 10**, Paul makes the point that Abraham's righteousness was accounted to him while he was still uncircumcised. Summarize Paul's arguments proving this fact found in **verses 11 & 12**.

**11.** David Guzik states, "The Jews of Paul's day thought circumcision meant they were the true descendants of Abraham. Paul insists that to have Abraham as your father, you must walk in the steps of the faith that Abraham walked in." How do the verses below confirm this truth?

**Romans 2:28 & 29 -**

**Galatians 5:6 -**

**Galatians 6:15 -**

**Philippians 3:3 -**

**12.** What does Paul say in **Romans 4:13** that God's promise to Abraham to become the heir of the world was based on?

13. The Mosaic Law had not yet been given when Abraham received this promise from God, which is another proof that his righteousness before God was completely apart from the law. What does Paul say about the law in **verses 14 & 15**?
14. The law brought about God's wrath because we were unable to keep it. In the second half of **verse 15**, Paul states, **"for where there is no law, there is no transgression."** What did Paul mean by this? Look up the word **transgression** in the dictionary and record the definition.
15. The definition **Webster's 1828 Dictionary** gives is: **"The act of passing over or beyond any law or rule of moral duty; the violation of a law or known principle of rectitude; a breach of command."** The Greek word is **"parabasis"** and it means to **"cross over a line"** or **"overstep a prohibition."** This isn't saying that there was no sin before the law was given. **Constable**, quoting one commentator states, **"Paul, then, is not claiming that there is no 'sin' where there is no law, but, in almost a 'truism,' that there is no deliberate disobedience of positive commands where there is no positive command to disobey."** Paul explains this later in chapter seven of Romans, pointing out that while sin already existed, the law revealed to us how **"sinful"** sin is. Look up **Romans 7:13** and record the verse below.

Paul's conclusion to this is found in **Romans 4:16**. The **Bible Knowledge Commentary** quotes this verse as, **"Therefore (lit., 'On account of this') the promise comes by (ek, 'out of') faith so that it may be by (kata, 'according to the standard of') grace."** In other words, on account of this.....the fact that I am a sinner, and God's law revealed how much of a sinner I am and how grievous it is to God, and because of my sinful nature, the only way I could be saved from the consequences of my sin was to be given the gift of God's grace, that is appropriated to me by my faith in Him.

**David Guzik** states, “To speak technically, we are not saved by *faith*. We are saved by God’s *grace*, and *grace* is appropriated by *faith*.... We can only receive salvation by the principle of grace through faith. Grace can’t be gained through works, whether they be past works, present works, or promised works. This is because by definition grace is given without regard to anything in the one who receives it.”

**16.** The NLT reads verse 16 as, “So the promise is received by faith. It is given as a free gift. And we are all certain to receive it, whether or not we live according to the law of Moses, if we have faith like Abraham’s. For Abraham is the father of all who believe.” Looking now at **Romans 4:17**, Paul speaks of the promise God made to Abraham, and of the power of God to fulfill this promise. Write **verse 17** down below.

**17.** “God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did...” (Romans 4:17b NKJV). God’s promise to Abraham was both **physical** and **spiritual**. We are recipients of God’s promise to Abraham. Because of God’s promise we, too, were “given life.” Record these verses that confirm this.

**Ephesians 2:1 -**

**Ephesians 2:11-13 -**

**Colossians 2:13 –**

**18.** In **Romans 4:18-21**, Paul speaks of the faith of Abraham, which God accounted to him as righteousness. Record the specifics of Abraham’s faith from each of these verses.

**Verse 18 -**

**Verse 19 -**

**Verse 20 -**

**Verse 21 -**

**19.** Looking merely at the circumstances, we would be very understanding if Abraham had doubts of God being able to fulfill the promise He made to him, but **verse 21** tells us that, regardless of the circumstances, Abraham was **“fully convinced that what God had promised, He was able to perform.”** How does this speak to your heart? Is there a situation you’re struggling with, a prayer that seems impossible for God to answer, or a mountain in your life that seems unmovable? How does this verse about Abraham’s faith speak to you?

**20.** **Verse 22** tells us that it was because of Abraham’s faith, God counted him as righteous. What does Paul add to that statement, in **verses 23-25**?

21. Look up and record **Galatians 3:7-9**.

**The Bible Knowledge Commentary** states, “**The divine declaration of Abraham’s justification was written not for him alone, but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness. Such an act of justification, however, is not for everyone. It is for us who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.**”

This glorious truth is something we can be fully assured of. Just as Abraham was “fully convinced,” we too, can be fully assured that this promise is one that God has already fulfilled for us.

**David Guzik** comments that, “**When we talk about faith and saving faith in Jesus, it is important to emphasize that we mean believing that His work on the cross (delivered up because of our offenses) and triumph over sin and death (raised because of our justification) is what saves us. There are many false-faiths that can never save, and only faith in what Jesus accomplished on the cross and through the empty tomb can save us.**”

Guzik goes on to say, “**In this chapter, Paul clearly demonstrated that in no way does the Old Testament contradict the gospel of salvation by grace through faith. Instead the gospel is the *fulfillment* of the Old Testament, and Abraham - justified through faith - is our pattern.**”

22. What ministered to you most in your study of Romans, chapter four?