

# SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

THE BOOK OF

*The Brady Bunch. That's the way we became the Brady Bunch*

# ROMANS

*A New Lifestyle*

# **SRMBC 1<sup>ST</sup> & 2<sup>ND</sup> QTR BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Lesson Title</b>	<b>Scripture</b>
<b>1/10/2018</b>	<b>Good News from God</b>	<b>Romans 1:1 -17</b>
<b>1/24/2018</b>	<b>The Wrath of God</b>	<b>Romans 1:18 - 32</b>
<b>1/31/2018</b>	<b>The Judgment of God</b>	<b>Romans 2</b>
<b>4/11/2018</b>	<b>The Verdict</b>	<b>Romans 3:1 – 20</b>
<b>4/18/2018</b>	<b>The Righteousness from God</b>	<b>Romans 3:21 – 31</b>
<b>4/25/2018</b>	<b>The Example of Abraham</b>	<b>Romans 4</b>
<b>5/2/2018</b>	<b>Reasons to Rejoice</b>	<b>Romans 5</b>
<b>5/9/2018</b>	<b>New Life, New Lifestyle</b>	<b>Romans 6:1 – 7:6</b>
<b>5/16/2018</b>	<b>Our Struggle with Sin</b>	<b>Romans 7:7 – 25</b>
<b>5/23/2018</b>	<b>The Spirit Brings Life</b>	<b>Romans 8</b>
<b>5/30/2018</b>	<b>The Potter &amp; His Clay</b>	<b>Romans 9</b>
<b>6/6/2018</b>	<b>Misguided Zeal</b>	<b>Romans 10</b>
<b>6/13/2018</b>	<b>The Future of Israel</b>	<b>Romans 11</b>
<b>6/20/2018</b>	<b>Living As Living Sacrifices</b>	<b>Romans 12</b>
<b>6/27/2018</b>	<b>Submitting to Authorities</b>	<b>Romans 13 - 14</b>
<b>7/11/2018</b>	<b>Brothers &amp; Sisters in Christ</b>	<b>Romans 15 - 16</b>

# SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

**Romans: A New Lifestyle:**

**Lesson 6: The Example of Abraham**

**Romans 4**



# The Apostle Paul – The Letter to the Romans

- **Author:** Romans 1:1 identifies the author of the Book of Romans as the apostle Paul.
- **Date of Writing:** The Book of Romans was likely written A.D. 56-58.
- **Purpose of Writing:** His purpose in writing was to proclaim Jesus Christ by teaching doctrine and edify and encourage the believers.

## The Book Of Romans Tells Us:

- About God, who He is and what He has done.
- It tells us of Jesus Christ, what His death and resurrection accomplished.
- It tells us about ourselves, what we were like without Christ and who we are after trusting in Christ.



## **Group Discussion:**

**Why is it difficult to keep hope alive when we face repeated setbacks or failures?**

- **When we hear the bad news and stories from the media and people around us it is understandable to be hopeless.**
- **Bad news seems to be easier to believe than good news (If someone tells you some really good news – we often respond with “I don’t believe it!”)**
- **Even when we do have hope – someone always seems to come around to dash our hopes to make us as miserable as they are.**

## **Group Discussion:**

**What can you do to overcome feelings of hopelessness despair and depression?**

- **Attend church regularly – be around people of faith and hope**
- **Build your faith by reading and meditation of Word of God**
- **Participate in Personal and corporate prayer and praise.**
- **Reflect and recall the times when the Lord delivered you (beginning with your salvation) in the past.**

## Romans 4:1- 5 (NLT)

1 Abraham was, humanly speaking, **the founder of our Jewish nation**. What did he discover about being made **right with God**?

2 If his **good deeds** had made him **acceptable to God**, he would have had something to boast about. But that **was not God's way**.

3 For the Scriptures tell us, "**Abraham believed God**, and God counted him as **righteous because of his faith**."

4 When **people work**, their wages are **not a gift**, but something they have **earned**.

5 But people are counted as righteous, not because of their work, but because of **their faith in God who forgives sinners**.

## Romans 4:6-10 (NLT)

6 David also spoke of this when he described **the happiness** of those who are **declared righteous** without working for it:

7 “Oh, **what joy** for those whose **disobedience is forgiven**, whose **sins are put out of sight**.

8 Yes, **what joy** for those whose record the **Lord has cleared of sin**.”

9 Now, is this blessing **only for the Jews**, or is it also for uncircumcised Gentiles? Well, we have been saying that Abraham was counted as righteous by God **because of his faith**.

10 But **how did this happen**? Was he counted as righteous only after he was circumcised, or was it before he was circumcised? Clearly, God accepted Abraham **before he was circumcised**!



## Romans 4:11 – 15 (NLT)

11 **Circumcision was a sign** that Abraham already had faith and that God had already accepted him and declared him to be righteous—even before he was circumcised. So **Abraham is the spiritual father of those who have faith but have not been circumcised.** They are counted as righteous because **of their faith.**

12 And **Abraham is also the spiritual father of those who have been circumcised,** but only if they have the **same kind of faith** Abraham had before he was circumcised.

13 Clearly, **God's promise** to give **the whole earth** to Abraham and his descendants was based not on his obedience to God's law, but on a **right relationship with God that comes by faith.**

14 If God's promise is only for those **who obey the law,** then faith is not necessary and the promise is pointless.

15 For **the law always brings punishment** on those who try to obey it. (The only way to avoid breaking the law is to have no law to break!)

## Romans 4:16 – 20 (NLT)

16 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.

17 That is what the Scriptures mean when God told him, “**I have made you the father of many nations**.” This happened because Abraham believed in the God who brings the dead back to life and who creates **new things out of nothing**.

18 Even when there was no **reason for hope**, Abraham **kept hoping**—believing that he would become **the father of many nations**. For God had said to him, “That’s how many descendants you will have!”

19 And Abraham’s **faith did not weaken**, even though, at about 100 years of age, he figured **his body was as good as dead—and so was Sarah’s womb**.

20 Abraham **never wavered** in believing God’s promise. In fact, **his faith grew stronger**, and in this he brought **glory to God**.

## Romans 4:21 – 25 (NLT)

21 He was **fully convinced** that God is **able to do** whatever **he promises**.

22 And because of **Abraham's faith**, God counted him as righteous.

23 And when **God counted him as righteous**, it wasn't just for Abraham's benefit. It was recorded

24 **for our benefit, too**, assuring us that God will also count us as righteous if we believe in him, the one who **raised Jesus our Lord from the dead**.

25 He was handed over **to die** because of **our sins**, and he was **raised to life** to make us **right with God**.

**1. According to Paul, how were Old Testament saints, such as Abraham and David, justified (vv. 1-8)? How do we know this?**

- Everyone in the OT as well as everyone in the NT (including us) are justified/saved by grace of God through faith.**
- Everyone is forgiven of their sin by God's Grace (although they did not deserve it) by God.**
- The account of God's grace toward sinners especially Abraham (Gen 15:6) and David (Psalm 32:1 -2) are recorded in the OT.**



# OT Portraits of Faith – Abraham



**Abraham lived before the law was given - declared righteous while uncircumcised.**

**Believed God when He was commanded to leave his home and follow the Lord.**

**Believed by faith – that he and Sarah would have the child God promised – even though they were very old.**

**Believed that God would make him the “Father of many nations” – though he is childless.**

**Believed that God would raise his son Isaac from the dead even though he was called to sacrifice him.**

# OT Portraits of Faith – King David



David, , was circumcised and lived after the law had been given.

Chosen to king of Israel – by God's grace (A man after God's own heart).

Although favored by God David sinned grievously committing Adultery and Murder.

Yet – God forgave him – David recognizing he was/is saved and justified by God's grace that forgives our sins (Psalm 32)



## 2. What are some of the differences between justification by faith and by works (vv. 4-8)?

### Justification by Works

- Based on our efforts – only
- It is earned (or we think it is)
- It is wages – payment for our work (we deserve it)
- Since it is based on our own righteousness – it could also be lost.
- We have reason to boast about ourselves.

### Justification by Faith/Grace

- Not based on our efforts (PTL!!!)
- It is gift – not deserved
- It is based on the work of Christ
- Since we have no righteousness – we receive His
- We have no reason to boast - Jesus receives all the glory and praise.

**3. It's easy to feel that God accepts us only when we are good. When we feel this way, how can the examples of Abraham and David give us hope?**

- **God does not bless us because we are good – but because He is good**
- **David and Abraham were far from perfect – yet they are accepted by their faith in God**
- **God is good – so He does not excuse or overlook our sin – He does not kick us out of His family.**
- **God still used Abraham and David despite their shortcomings – He can still use us too!**



**4. Some people in Paul's day taught that unless a person was circumcised he had no hope of being saved (see Acts 15:1). How does Abraham's experience refute this idea (vv. 9-12)?**

- The Jews of Paul's day assumed, therefore, that circumcision was necessary to receive God's blessings, including salvation.**
- Anyone that was not Circumcised were outside the covenant were without hope.**
- Paul points out that Abraham was declared righteous before he was circumcised.**

*What kinds of false ideas do people today have about what is required for salvation?*

**5. God promised that Abraham and his offspring would inherit the world (v. 13). Who are Abraham's offspring (vv. 13-17)?**

- **All the Jewish people – people born under the OT – and circumcised under the Mosaic Law.**
- **All Gentiles – everyone in the world, circumcised or uncircumcised.**
- **The common denominator is not ethnicity, law-keeping or heritage – but faith.**

**6. Paul states that the God in whom Abraham believed “gives life to the dead and calls things that are not as though they were” (v. 17). How does this statement relate to Abraham’s predicament described in verses 18-22**

### Abraham and Sarah

- Abraham’s body was “as good as dead,” but the God of resurrection gave him life.
- Both Abraham or Sarah too old to conceive a child, but God gave them that ability.
- They had no child but the God of creation gave one to them – just as He promised.



## **7. How does Abraham illustrate our own hopeless predicament as non-Christians and the solution provided in Jesus Christ (vv. 18-25)?**

- We desire to be accepted by God, but we are spiritually dead – like Abraham and Sarah's bodies.**
- Without Christ, we are spiritually dead and have no hope of living up to God's standards – but God made a way through Jesus Christ.**
- God's promises to Abraham and to us today, offers hope in a hopeless situation.**



## 8. What situation are you currently facing that requires faith in the God of creation and resurrection?

- Hope is not the same as wishful thinking—” Notice that Abraham’s hope was a trust that “God had power to do what he had promised” (v. 21).
- Our hope should be anchored in both the character and promises of God.
- Faith and hope are demonstrated externally. They do not remain merely internal.

# THINGS TO BELIEVE GOD FOR



THE  
BUILDING  
PROJECT



WORLD WIDE WEB  
 **UTREACH**



Church  
Growth 

# KEYS FOR LIVING

- *Our state before Christ was totally hopeless as we were/are unable to ever save ourselves. In the Person and work of Jesus – we now have a steadfast and eternal hope.*
- *Abraham and David are OT examples of how God saves and justifies - not through the Law, but by Grace through faith.*
- *Since we can trust God's righteousness and great love for us to provide salvation for our spiritual needs, we can have faith that He will also provide our physical needs as well.*

QUESTIONS

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