

# Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: Romans

Speaker: Jay Haugh

Message: Faith Alone

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## **Memory Verse:** Romans 6:23 NIV

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*The goal of these questions is to foster meaningful discussion and to encourage participants to reflect on God's Word and lead to heart transformation. Feel free to modify or expand upon these questions based on the dynamics and needs of your Small Group.*

**Big Idea:** All can be saved, but only by faith alone in the promise of God, just like Abraham.

## **Read Romans 4:13-25**

1. Salvation and right standing with God do not come through a person's lineage (v 14). If you grew up in a Christian home, when did you make your family's faith your personal faith? What led you to do so? In what ways can spiritual heritage be a blessing without becoming something we depend on for salvation?
2. Laws, by their nature, highlight our failures and create consequences if we fall short (vv 14-15). How does realizing that the law exposes our sin help us better understand why grace is necessary? When you become aware of your own failure, what is your natural response? What does the Bible prescribe for how we should respond to our sin?
3. True grace can be quite uncomfortable because it requires us to accept a gift we didn't earn (v 16). In what ways do pride or independence make it difficult to admit that we need something we can't provide for ourselves? How does our culture's emphasis on earning, achieving, or deserving shape the way we



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struggle to receive grace?

4. Abraham is the father of “many” nations, showing that God’s vision for His family has always been global, multi-ethnic, and inclusive of all who trust Him (vv 16-17). As a body of believers, how can we proclaim the gospel to the “many” nations represented in our local community? Do you view your networks and workplace as a mission field?
5. God created the universe out of nothing, and He can bring dead things back to life (v 17). When have you seen or experienced God’s power in this kind of way? Are there any areas in your life that you feel are “dead” or beyond hope right now? What does it look like to trust God’s power instead of focusing on current circumstances?
6. Abraham hoped and believed God’s promises despite circumstances, such as their age, that ran counter to what is normative (vv 18-19). How do you personally define the difference between biblical hope and wishful thinking? What makes it difficult to hold onto hope when circumstances seem to oppose God’s promises? What can help us better walk in faith in these situations?
7. Faith has always been the way we are made right with God, from Abraham to us today, if we believe in the One who raised Jesus from the dead (vv 22-24). Since salvation has always been by faith, why has the pathway to salvation been misunderstood by different God-fearing people groups across generations? Who in your life might be encouraged by hearing that faith, not perfection, is what God looks for? How can you share that truth with them?
8. Our faith rests in Jesus, who was delivered over to death for our sins and raised for our justification (vv 24-25). When you think about your standing with God, do you more naturally identify as a “sinner in debt” or as someone “fully justified”? What specific memory or failure makes it hardest for you to believe that you are truly “set right”? How can we give our past mistakes, regardless of how painful they are, over to God and live knowing we are forgiven?



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