

February 1-2, 2025

Title: Romans: ‘The Free Gift’, Pt 1– “The Gift that Changes Everything” – Romans 4:1-12

Big Idea: Trust in God’s promise, treasure His forgiveness, and thrive in unity as His family.

Read Romans 4:1-12 and pray.

What in the message stood out to you?

What questions do you have?

Paul says Abraham was justified by faith, not by works. Why is this distinction so important? How does our culture—and even our own hearts—often drift toward self-justification?

In Romans 4:6-8, Paul quotes David, who describes the blessing of forgiveness. Why do we struggle to live as if we are truly forgiven? How does believing in justification by faith alone free us from guilt and striving?

Paul emphasizes in Romans 4:9-12 that Abraham was justified before he was circumcised, showing that salvation is for all people. What are some ways we may subtly add “requirements” to faith in Christ for ourselves or others?

The story of *Chariots of Fire* contrasts two runners—one striving to justify his existence and another running out of the joy of being loved by God. Which mindset do you most relate to in your daily life? (Work, family, friendships) How can you shift from striving to resting in Christ?

Justification should change how we live—freeing us from guilt, striving, and insecurity. Where in your life do you struggle with these things? How can the truth of justification bring freedom in those areas?

Paul shows that justification unites believers across barriers of culture, background, and status. How can our church better reflect this unity? How can you personally contribute to greater unity in your relationships?

“Next Steps” Takeaways – Discuss and pray through the following:

1. How might the LORD be calling you to trust Him more deeply?
2. How might the LORD be calling you to treasure His forgiveness?
3. How might the LORD be calling you to pursue unity within the body of Christ?