

Romans 4:13-25

¹³ It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. ¹⁴ For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, ¹⁵ because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

¹⁶ Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. ¹⁷ As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the sight of GOD, in whom he believed—the GOD who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

¹⁸ Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be." ¹⁹ Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah's womb was also dead. ²⁰ Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of GOD, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to GOD, ²¹ being fully persuaded that GOD had power to do what HE had promised. ²² This is why "it was credited to him as righteousness." ²³ The words "it was credited to him" were written not for him alone, ²⁴ but also for us, to whom GOD will credit righteousness—for us who believe in HIM who raised JESUS our LORD from the dead. ²⁵ He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

Memory Verse: Romans 4:22-24

²² This is why "it was credited to him as righteousness." ²³ The words "it was credited to him" were written not for him alone, ²⁴ but also for us, to whom GOD will credit righteousness—for us who believe in HIM who raised JESUS our LORD from the dead.

The Third Sunday after Pentecost
Romans 4:13-25

St. Andrew Lutheran Church
June 11, 2023

HOW TO HAVE A STRONGER FAITH

CHILDLIKE FAITH

THE FAITH OF ABRAHAM

EXAMPLES OF FAITHFULNESS

WHAT IS FAITH?

HOW CAN WE MAKE OUR FAITH STRONGER?

QUESTIONS FOR STUDY

Getting Started

- 1) What was your attitude/mind-set when you entered worship this week? What was it when you left worship? What most contributed to that change?
- 2) What insight, principle or observation from this week's message did you find most helpful, eye opening, or troubling? Explain.

Into the Bible

- 3) Read Hosea 5:15-6:6. To what is the prophet calling Israel to return? What suffering has Israel experienced (v. 6:1)? What promise is given to their suffering (v. 6:1)? For what is GOD'S greatest desire from GOD'S people (v. 6:6)?
- 4) Read Romans 4:13-25. On what basis did Abraham receive GOD'S promise? What does GOD credit to a person as righteousness? What was the focus of Abraham's trust in GOD? What is ours?

- 5) Read Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26. Why did the Pharisees object to those with whom JESUS ate? How did JESUS respond? Over what does JESUS reveal power in the two miracles described here? For what does JESUS praise the healed woman?

Application to Life

- 6) Why is Abraham a great example of faith? Why might Abraham's faith be described as childlike? When have you seen children demonstrating their tremendous faith in what they are told?
- 7) What is it that those with weak faith want before they will act? Why might they hesitate to respond to GOD'S call? What promise does GOD give that can help those who hesitate?
- 8) When has GOD called you to make a "leap of faith?" How did it go? Why? What is GOD'S promise to those who trust GOD and seek to respond to GOD'S invitation to act for GOD?
- 9) What do you sense GOD is saying to you based on this study?