

TOPIC : Romans: 4 Faith

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MEDITATION TIME:

Welcome to our weekly small group BIBLE MEDITATION outline. The goal is to get people chewing on the Word of God. We use a simple strategy called **S. O. A. P.** to guide us through.

Let's dive in:

S - SCRIPTURE: Todays text(s) are:

Romans 4:16-25

We encourage you to each read a verse as you go round the group - use whatever translation you have. If you don't want to read aloud then just nudge the person after you, but do your best to join in.

O - OBSERVATION:

The goal here is to underline or highlight the verse that stands out to you the most.

What verse that catches your attention?

What words or phrases in that verse stand out in particular?

Take a few moments individually to answer these questions.

A - APPLICATION: Now ask people to take turns to share their verse, by getting them to answer these two questions:

Which verse did you choose and what is it saying?

Why do you think the Holy Spirit is highlighting this verse to you?

P - PRAYER: Once everyone has had a chance to share their verses, close the evening with a round of prayer.

Ask everyone to turn their verse and what they felt God saying to them into a short prayer for the rest of the group.

Go clockwise around the table giving everyone a chance to pray.

Summary

This sermon focuses on understanding faith through Romans 4, particularly examining Abraham's example. We are taught that faith is critical because it is linked to grace - faith is the mechanism through which God's grace flows into our lives.

Faith is not merely wishful thinking, but rather trusting God's promises more than natural processes, and demonstrating that trust through obedient action.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. Faith is the tap that opens the door for God's grace to flow.

2. Faith means trusting God's promises more than natural processes.

3. True faith is demonstrated through intentional obedience, not wishful thinking.

4. Radical repentance leads to radical grace.

5. Being devoted to Jesus means putting Him first in everything.

GOING DEEPER:

Questions:

1. What are some 'natural processes' in your life that might be challenging your faith in God's promises?

2. If we take the statement: "faith is not wishful thinking but intentional obedience", what does this look like practically in your life?

3. How does Abraham's example of faith challenge or encourage you in your own faith journey?

4. What's the difference between 'self-righteousness' and 'God's righteousness' according to the message? 5. The sermon mentioned being 'devoted' to Jesus. What areas of your life might need adjustment to reflect true devotion?

ACTION STEP

This week, identify one area where you've been trusting more in natural processes than God's promises.

Write down relevant Bible promises that speak to this situation and take one concrete step of faith-filled obedience in response to God's Word.