

**GOD'S WORD IS LIFE**  
**Pastor Mark Anderson**  
**THE BOOK OF ROMANS**

**SESSION THREE: Study Outline for Romans 3:21-4:25**

**Introduction: Justification by Faith**

**Purpose:** Explore the doctrine of justification by faith and its implications for believers.

**Themes:** Righteousness apart from the Law, the role of faith, Abraham as the model of faith, the fulfillment of God's promises.

**Objective:** Understand how Paul articulates the central theme of justification by faith, using Abraham as an example of faith that is credited as righteousness.

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**I. The Righteousness of God through Faith (Romans 3:21-26)**

- **Romans 3:21-22:**
  - God's righteousness is revealed apart from the Law.
  - This righteousness is accessible to all through faith in Jesus Christ.
- **Romans 3:23-24:**
  - All have sinned and fall short of God's glory, but are justified freely by His grace.
  - Justification is a gift through the redemption that came by Christ.
- **Romans 3:25-26:**
  - God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, received by faith.
  - Demonstrates God's justice and His ability to justify those who have faith in Jesus.

**II. The Exclusion of Boasting (Romans 3:27-31)**

- **Romans 3:27-28:**
  - Boasting is excluded because justification is by faith, not by works of the Law.
- **Romans 3:29-30:**
  - God is the God of both Jews and Gentiles, justifying all through faith.

- **Romans 3:31:**

- The Law is upheld through faith, not nullified.

### **III. Abraham Justified by Faith (Romans 4:1-12)**

- **Romans 4:1-3:**

- Abraham's righteousness was credited to him through faith, not works.

- **Romans 4:4-5:**

- Justification comes to those who trust in God, who justifies the ungodly.

- **Romans 4:6-8:**

- David speaks of the blessedness of the one to whom God credits righteousness apart from works.

- **Romans 4:9-12:**

- Abraham was justified by faith before circumcision, making him the father of all who believe, both circumcised and uncircumcised.

### **IV. The Promise Realized through Faith (Romans 4:13-25)**

- **Romans 4:13-15:**

- The promise to Abraham was not through the Law but through the righteousness that comes by faith.

- **Romans 4:16-17:**

- The promise comes by faith so that it may be by grace and guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring.

- **Romans 4:18-22:**

- Abraham's unwavering faith in God's promises, despite natural impossibilities.
- His faith was credited to him as righteousness.

- **Romans 4:23-25:**

- The words "it was credited to him" were not for Abraham alone but also for us who believe in God, who raised Jesus from the dead.