



The
**Greatest
Gift**

—
**SALVATION BY FAITH ALONE,
IN CHRIST ALONE**

ROMANS 4:1–5; 4:16–5:2

STUDY GUIDE

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The Greatest Gift: Salvation by Faith Alone, in Christ Alone • Romans 4:1-5; 4:16-5:2

WELCOME: Fixing Our Focus

Suggested Icebreaker:

Ask each GG member what Christmas gift they received that they consider most memorable and treasured.

WORSHIP: Adoring Our God

Suggested song:

- [Christ Our Hope in Life and Death](#)

WORD & WALK:

Understanding & Applying the Word

LESSON AIM

1. GG members will thank God and rejoice that salvation is a gift to be received by faith alone.
2. GG members will place their faith in Jesus Christ alone - that he died for their sins and was raised to life for their salvation.

INTRODUCTION

The greatest gift ever given was Jesus Christ, whom God sent into the world so that people would be forgiven of their sins and saved from death (John 3:16). This gift needs to be received if one wants to enjoy it, and the only way to receive God's gift is by faith, as Paul explained in our passage.

Justification is by faith alone (vv. 4:1-5; 16–22)

Many people think that if they are good enough, they will be saved and will spend eternity with God. However, scripture clearly teaches that salvation is not by works but by faith alone.

1. What did Paul say about obtaining justification by works? (cf. Romans 3:20; Ephesians 2:8-9)
2. How did Paul describe justification? How does God see a person who is justified? (cf. Genesis 15:6)
3. What's the difference between wages and gifts? Why did Paul consider justification a gift? (cf. Romans 1:16-17)
4. How does one receive justification? What is its relation to faith and grace? According to Paul, who can consider Abraham their father? (cf. Genesis 17:5; Galatians 3:7-9)
5. How would you describe the quality of Abraham's faith? (cf. Genesis 15:5-6; 17:17; 18:11)

Application:

We cannot earn justification or salvation. It is God's gift to us, and therefore, we can only receive it. The only way to receive is by faith. Think of how hopeless and helpless you would be if you needed to earn salvation. Take a few moments to praise and thank God for the gift of justification.

WORD & WALK:

Understanding & Applying the Word

One needs to have faith in Jesus Christ to be justified (vv. 4:23-5:2)

Paul explained that justification is received by faith. Now, Paul clarified what the object of faith is. A person has to believe that Jesus Christ died for their sin and was raised to life for their salvation.

1. According to Paul, righteousness is counted on people who believe in who/ what? (cf. Isaiah 53:4-6, 12; John 1:29)
2. What happens to a person who is justified before God? (cf. Ephesians 2:14-16; Colossians 1:27; 1 Peter 5:10)

Application:

Have you placed your faith in Jesus Christ alone for your salvation? The present is always the best time to make this decision. We do not know up to when God will give us the opportunity to place our faith in Christ alone. Carefully consider doing so now.

If you have already placed your faith in Christ alone for your salvation, how are you sharing this with others? Pray for specific people in your life with whom you will share the message of salvation. Ask God to give you opportunities to relate with them and possibly share the gospel with them. Invite them to our church activities. If they respond positively to the gospel message, mentor them in the faith.

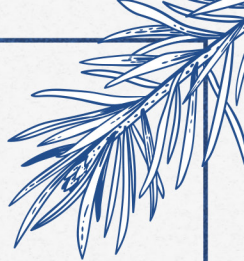
PRAYER ITEM

Father God, thank you for the gift of salvation. I know it cost you greatly. You sacrificed your one and only son so that we might be adopted into your family. May I not take your gift of salvation for granted. Give me the burden to share the gospel message with others so that they may also have the hope that we have in Christ. All this I pray in Jesus' name. Amen. ■



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Know Christ and Make Him Known

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