

## The Promise of the Gospel

### A Study of the Book of Romans

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**Key Truth:** The promise of the gospel is a miraculous, world-wide inheritance in Jesus Christ that comes through the same righteousness of faith shared with Abraham.

When we preach expositional sermons each Sunday (exposing the text and giving its sense per Nehemiah 8:8), we preach the good news of God's grace and mercy toward mankind. This practice was not invented by man, but was initiated by God himself, who preached the gospel to Abraham (see Galatians 3:8). God preached to Abraham to bring about faith, and he preaches the gospel to us in our day, to produce and grow our faith. The Book of Romans is about the gospel of Jesus Christ, and this passage (Romans 4:13-18) is about the promise of the gospel, made first to Abraham, and now to us.

## DISCUSS

Read **Romans 4:13-18** and discuss with the group a statement or concept that stood out to you or impacted you in the sermon entitled "The Promise of the Gospel."

## DIG IN

The promise of the gospel...

**1. Comes through the Righteousness of Faith.** (Romans 4:13-15)

The righteousness of faith is synonymous with "Justification that comes through faith in Christ" (Philippians 3:9). Why is it important that this righteousness not come through the observance of the law?

According to verse 13, what will Abraham and his offspring inherit? What is the quality of these heirs according to Matthew 5:5? Why is that important?

Why would attempting to achieve the righteousness of faith by any means other than faith void the promise of God?

**2. Is the Guarantee of God's Grace.** (Romans 4:16)

In what ways does God's grace guarantee our inheritance (see Ephesians 2:8-9)?

**3. Is the Miracle of God's Power.** (Romans 4:17)

What are the two miracles of God's power mentioned in verse 17?

Is one miracle greater than the other? Why or why not?

In what ways do we experience each of those miracles by faith?

**4. Produces a Greater Hope.** (Romans 4:18)

In what ways does our confidence in natural human processes wane as we get older?

In what ways does faith in God and his promise produce a greater hope than that which resides in our human strengths?

## DO

What lessons do you learn from these verses that you will take with you throughout the coming week?