

# Romans

MADE RIGHT  
WITH GOD

## CONFESSION

KEY SCRIPTURE | Romans 4:1–8

SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2023

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

We are now in our ninth week of the *Romans: Made Right with God* series. In Romans 1-3, Paul argues that all of humanity is equally lost and utterly depraved, but both can be made right with God through Christ and trusting in Him. He finishes this section in 3:27-31 by discussing three big ideas: boasting, circumcision, and the Old Testament law. In Romans 4, he unpacks these same three topics in the same order. In 4:1-8 Paul says there is no room for boasting because faith is not earned, it is a gift from God. This is how it has always been since Abraham. Abraham believed God and it was *credited* to him as righteousness. We are made right with God because of the faithfulness of Jesus and all we have to do is trust (*pistis*) in Jesus. Our sins are forgiven and not counted against us because of what Jesus has done for us. If we confess our sins, we will receive His righteousness.

## QUESTIONS

What is the strangest thing you ever wanted as a gift?

1. If you were to ask people how you can be made right with God, what do you think their answers would be?
2. Why do you think our culture values earning something so much? How might this impact our reception of the gospel?
3. Read Genesis 15:5–6 and Romans 4:1–4. Why do you think Paul uses Abraham as an example of justification by faith?
4. Based on these same passages, how does Paul understand the phrase “credited to him as righteousness”?
5. Why do you think Paul uses David as an example of forgiveness?
6. Why is confessing sin so hard for us? How could you make it a practice in your life to confess sin?
7. After discussing this message, how is God inviting you to respond to His word?



**NOTES:**

For more about the Abraham story:

Genesis 12:1-3, 15:1-19, 17:1-14

For more about David's confessions:

Psalms 32 and 51

For the importance of confessing sin:

1 John 1:9 and James 5:16

**DIGGING DEEPER:**

The Power of Confessing Our Sin: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2pINDULkwRk>

