

Wellington Presbyterian Church

Sunday, April 13, 2008

Series: The Gospel of John: A questioning culture meets Jesus and learns faith, love, and discipleship

Faith of Our Father Abraham?

Romans 4

(teaching in preparation of upcoming sermon on John 6:1-24)

Eric Molicki, Senior Pastor

Notes

Main Point: Since even Abraham was justified by faith in Christ, then we certainly must flee to faith in Christ!

The Prescription – Since even Abraham was justified by faith in Christ, then we must abandon all attempts for righteousness apart from faith. (vv. 1-17)

Thesis: Scripture proves even Abraham was justified by faith. (vv. 1-3)

1st Argument – Works won't work for anyone because God is then obligated. (vv. 4-8)

2nd Argument – Circumcision didn't justify Abraham – it came after his justification. (vv. 9-12)

3rd Argument – Works righteousness misunderstands the Law's purpose. (vv. 14-17)

Wearing it – Since even Abraham was justified by faith, then we must follow Abraham's example of faith in Christ. (vv. 18-25)

1st – The character of our faith should be the same as Abraham's faith. (vv. 18-22)

2nd – Our faith should have the same object as Abraham's faith — Christ! (vv. 23-25)

Guide for Personal Devotions, Families and Gatherings

Study for the Week: The Bible says itself that it is the very word of God, breathed out and capable of completely equipping us for life in Christ. Depending on how much time you allot, we encourage you to increase your concentric circles of reading around the morning text. Read the chapter in which it lives, then the section, then the entire book. Invite the Lord to reveal to you the major lessons and truths you need for the next leg of your journey in Him.

Applying the Word Together: Read the texts of the morning together, and then utilize the following study guide to help move the Word from the head, to the heart, and then to the hands.

Getting Started: Share one item in your life with your gathering for praise or prayer, and spend some time supporting one another in the presence of the Lord.

Going Deeper: What one truth from the Bible, or from the message, penetrated your heart? Tell the story of why that one insight is going to make a difference in your life.

What will your life be like in the years to come, as God gives them, if you really put this new insight into practice? What will it be like if you don't?

Hitting Home: At the end of your time together, spend some valuable moments of silence inviting the Lord Jesus Christ to do his special work in you for his glory.

Westminster Confession of Faith, Larger Catechism and Smaller Catechism links are found at www.wpcf.com under *Resources/Pastor's Notes*.

View notes or listen to sermons on our website at www.wpcf.com under *Resources/Pastor's Notes*, and login to check out the *Pastor's Blog*.