



THE HEART OF THE GOSPEL

ROMANS 1 - 4

Sermon Series Study Guide

A 5-week video series by Dr. John Neufeld



Week 5:

FAITH ALONE

What does it mean to be a Christian? What is the message of the Gospel? What is the heart of the Christian message? Sometimes people stumble and have no idea whatsoever, but I believe the book of Romans can clear the fog. When you strip everything back, culture, politics, entertainment, no book better describes what it means to be a follower of Christ. The Book of Romans is a discovery of the heart of the Christian message, the Good News, the Gospel. It is Christianity 101... four chapters that lay bare the very foundation of our faith.



BACK to the **BIBLE**
Canada



Week 5:

FAITH ALONE

Faith what is it? What is your salvation based on? Is it a result of what you have done, accomplished, earned? Because you are basically a good person, or observed a certain ritual or routine? Or do you understand that there is nothing you can do; it is only by faith that anyone is counted righteous. Well, Dr. John's biblical definition of faith would be this, "Faith is really all about trusting ourselves fully into the hands of God, on the basis of truth." Romans 4 makes God's message clear: forgiveness of sin, salvation, comes by way of faith... faith alone.

"If you think you have something to boast about before God, you're seriously mistaken about who you think God actually is. That God, the infinite being who knows all things, who is before and after all things, who creates all things, who is glorious beyond imagination, that if you think that we human beings that the creation, the creature, should impress the Creator by our actions- you don't yet know God. Nobody has anything to boast about before God." - DR. JOHN NEUFELD

READ: Romans 4

"For the Scriptures tell us, 'Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith.' " (Romans 4:3)

My Notes:

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FAITH ALONE

“The Heart of the Gospel” Week 5 Study Questions:

REFLECT:

- How do we understand how anyone is called righteous before God?

- According to Paul, are we made right with God based upon an observance? If not, how are we made right?

“In order to be right with God, you don't get right with God by religious observance. You don't get right with God by the amount of prayers. You don't get right with God by the amount of times you've been to church. You don't even get right with God because you've been baptized. You don't get right with God because you've gone through some ritual. None of that makes you right with God. There's only one thing that makes you right with God. It's faith. And it's faith alone. It's trusting in the word of God.” - Dr. John Neufeld

- How does Paul explain the purpose of the Law, and how does it apply to us?

RESPOND:

- Do you trust God when he speaks or do you not? Everything comes down to that one thing. The person who trusts God is forgiven. The person who does not, regardless of what else is attached to their lives, is not forgiven. It's by faith and by faith alone. Is your relationship with God based upon that faith?



FAITH ALONE

Prayer Point:

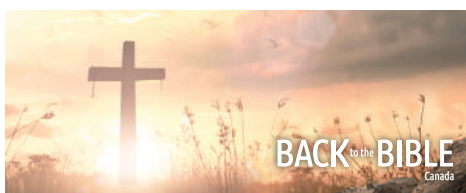
Heavenly Father, I know that I am a sinner. I know that I'm unworthy of any kindness that I've received and yet, I've received so many of kindnesses in my life. The air that I breathe, the sun that rises in the morning, the food that's on my table, the strength that's in my body, the friendships that I have enjoyed. Lord, you have rained upon me, one blessing after another and I've earned none of those. Lord, even my intellect, which I use in terms of my work and the strength that I use as well, that came as a gift from you. All that I have is do you. And I know that I have not responded in kind. I have broken your laws and your commands, and there is nothing that justifies me in your presence. But I believe that Christ justifies me. I believe that Jesus died on the cross for my sins. And now, Lord Jesus, I surrender my life into your hands. Here's my life. Take it. I give it entirely to you. And I trust from this day forward, not in myself, but in the merits of Jesus, take my life, make it yours.

Additional Resources:

Click the links below to access some of the latest blogs, messages, and videos from Back to the Bible Canada and our friends at Laugh Again and indoubt!



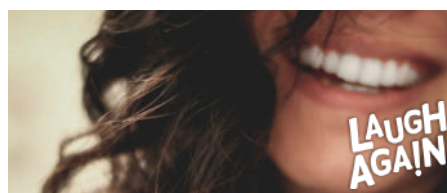
Check out Dr. Neufeld's expanded audio series,
The Heart of the Gospel: Romans 1-4
<https://www.backtothebible.ca/series/romans-the-heart-of-the-gospel/>



The Mystery of Faith
From the series *Passion*

Back to the Bible Canada

<https://www.backtothebible.ca/messages/the-mystery-of-faith/>



Faith in the Shadow of Doubt

Laugh Again

<https://laughagain.ca/broadcast/faith-in-the-shadow-of-doubt/>



For the Faith

A 5-session video study series on Jude

indoubt

<https://indoubt.ca/jude/>