

**“Getting It Right” (Justification)**  
**(Study 2 of “Getting Personal with God: Sonship A” Series)**

**The Scripture Passages (Paul’s Letter to the Romans 4:1-8; 5:1-2)**

*English Standard Version Translation (ESV)*

Romans 4

1 What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh?  
2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.  
3 For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.”  
4 Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due.  
5 And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness,  
6 just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

7 “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,  
and whose sins are covered;  
8 blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”

Romans 5

1 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.  
2 Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

*New Living Translation (NLT)*

Romans 4

1 Abraham was, humanly speaking, the founder of our Jewish nation. What did he discover about being made right with God?  
2 If his good deeds had made him acceptable to God, he would have had something to boast about. But that was not God's way.  
3 For the Scriptures tell us, "Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith."

4 When people work, their wages are not a gift, but something they have earned.  
5 But people are counted as righteous, not because of their work, but because of their faith in God who forgives sinners.  
6 David also spoke of this when he described the happiness of those who are declared righteous without working for it:

7 "Oh, what joy for those  
whose disobedience is forgiven,  
whose sins are put out of sight.  
8 Yes, what joy for those  
whose record the LORD has cleared of sin.

Romans 5

1 Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us.  
2 Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God's glory.

## **“Confusing Our ‘Who’ and Our ‘Do’ ” (From an interview with Bryan Chapell)**

*“To answer the question “Does God love me?” the reflex response of many is to ask themselves another question: “Well, let’s see. How am I doing?” Whether the person is in a loving relationship with God is determined by how that person is “doing” in terms of meeting God’s standards [for our own standards for ourselves]*

*Such a person confuses our “who” and our “do.” Who we are in relationship with God is not determined by what we do; rather, what we do is determined by who we are. [...] The command to imitate God (that is, to be holy as He is holy) is based on the family relationship with Him that His grace has already established. In essence Paul says, “Make who you are determine what you do.” He does not say, “Remember what you do determines who you are” The identity God’s grace establishes determines the behavior we imitate. Who we are establishes what we do — and not the reverse!*

*God’s grace motivates our behavior; our behavior does not manufacture His grace. We live in response to His love, not to qualify for it or to make Him produce it. Our obedience is a prayer of thanksgiving, not a bribe for blessings. [...] What we do must not determine who we are, but who we are by God’s grace should determine what we do.”*

### **Group Prayer**

Ideas for Communal and Personal Prayer (Choose 1-2 topics to share about and pray for):

1. What’s one *burden* you need prayer for- for relief or healing?
2. What’s one *sin* you’d like to (re-)confess to God?
3. What’s one *deed* in your life or community you’d like to praise God for?
4. What’s one *desire* stirred by this time together with God that you can pray for?