



- How to be Accepted by God -

Ice-Breaker:

Discuss why you suppose there are so many different denominations within Christendom. In what ways might this be a good thing? In what ways might this be a bad thing?

Discussion:

1. **Read Genesis 15:5-6.** If you were in your 80's and had no children, how do you think you would've responded to God?
2. **Read Romans 4:1-8; Ephesians 2:8-9.**
 - Why does God mention boasting in each of these passages?
 - Why does God justify "the wicked"?
 - Why do you think some people struggle with teaching the message that salvation is a free gift of God's grace, received by faith alone?
3. **Read Romans 4:9-12.**
 - How would you respond to someone who believes some sort of ritual (confirmation, baptism, etc.) has saved them?
 - What is the purpose of rituals such as circumcision or baptism?
4. **Read Romans 4:16.**
 - God's promise of salvation comes through faith. According to this passage, *why* did God design salvation to come through faith?
 - What are the implications of the fact that God said His promise of salvation is "guaranteed" to us?

Personal Application:

Since God is a God of love and grace, think of someone you could extend love and grace to this week, rather than being critical and judgmental.

For further study, see our new daily devotional! Scan the QR code above, or go to hillcountry.life/devotional