

A few points and questions to consider:

Genesis 15:6 is a verse Paul cites several times in this passage. Read Genesis 15. At this point in his life, Abraham (still referred to as Abram) is about 85 years old. What changes his mindset from verse 3 to verse 6?

In Romans 4:18, Paul writes of Abraham: “In hope he believed against hope (ESV) / Who against hope, believed in hope (KJV) / Who against hope believed in hope (NIV) / He believed, hoping against hope (CSB) / Even when there was no reason for hope, Abraham kept hoping (NLT).” Ponder that verse then describe the two “hopes” Paul referenced.

Pastor Brad shared a practical definition of faith as “taking God at His word.” That’s clearly played out in the lives of imperfect men and women throughout the Scriptures. As a final meditation, read Hebrews 11 - focusing particularly on verse 1 - and observe how this is seen in the persons noted in this chapter. Thinking about that, note below examples of how you have seen (or are seeing) this exemplified in your life or in the lives of family and friends.

“Being credited with righteousness” by faith is a two sided doorway. Those justified (made right with God, heirs of the promise) by faith leave one thing behind and enter (inherit) something else. Reflect for a few minutes on what you left behind when Jesus saved you, what you have already inherited because of His grace, and what you are still waiting to inherit when He returns. Now that You have pondered it for a few moments, see ‘what Scripture has to say’ about the same question. Be sure to praise the Lord as you go!”

Scripture Reading for April 22 Bible Study: Romans 5:1-11

Once again, we encourage you to dig a little deeper into this passage by preparing a HEAR Report. As noted in previous weeks, HEAR is an acronym for Highlight, Explain, Apply, Respond.

- Read thru this passage and HIGHLIGHT a verse(s) that you found especially powerful.
- EXPLAIN the verse. What was the context and purpose for what was written and when it was written.
- APPLY the verse to yourself
- Lastly, RESPOND to the verse. Maybe there are changes God wants you to make in your life w.r.t. the verse. Or your response may be a prayer to God. It may be praising Him. However you feel led to respond.

As has been pointed out by others, the goal isn’t for you / me to jot down a “profound truth” but to note the “truth you found.”

Please email us and let us know how this passage spoke to you. Also let us know if you have any general comments, suggestions, etc. for this midweek Bible study program. *We want and need to hear from you.* Email address: connect@madisonavenuebc.org

Name: _____

H.E.A.R. REPORT for _____ (Bible passage).

Matthew 7:7 (ESV), "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

Source: Growing Up, Robby Gallaty

Name: _____

H.E.A.R. REPORT for _____ (Bible passage).

Highlight a verse(s)

Explain what the text means.

Possible questions to consider: *Why was this written? To whom was it originally written? How does it fit with the verses immediately before and after it? Why did the Holy Spirit include this passage in the book? What is He intending to communicate through this text?*

Apply "the significance of these verses to you personally"

Possible questions to consider: *How can this help me? What does this mean to me? What would the application of this verse look like in my life? What does this mean to me? How does this apply to my family, my church family, my community? What is God saying to me?*

Respond

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