

Session 3: Salvation.

What's so amazing about grace?

Welcome to Session 3 of our teaching series on Romans. In this session you will find worship song suggestions, a sermon outline and a written prayer.

KEY VERSE:

'All are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.'

ROMANS 3.24 (NIV)

BIBLE READINGS:

Romans 3.19–24, 4.19–25

MAIN QUESTIONS:

How can a just and holy God declare sinners to be righteous, and how does this enable us to live out the adventure of faith?

MAIN THEMES:

Justification, faith, acceptance, doubt, pride, gratitude, adventure.

Context:

Paul has led his audience through the valley of sin. Having felt the crisis, we are now ready to hear the good news story of God's amazing grace.

Summary:

Paul helps us understand what God has done to save us through the death of Christ. He then uses the example of Abraham, which inspires us to not only be justified by faith but also to live a life of adventure by faith.

WORSHIP SONG SUGGESTIONS:

- This Is Amazing Grace
- Your Grace Is Enough
- House Of The Lord
- To God Be The Glory
- Who You Say I Am
- In Christ Alone
- Just As I Am, Without One Plea

CONCLUSION

How do we live in the light of this?

Below are some suggested points of application. Feel free to select a couple of points which are most appropriate to your setting.

- **Following in Abraham's footsteps means accepting God's grace as a free gift.** Have there ever been times you have been tempted to try to 'pay God back' or earn salvation by good works? Romans 4.4–5 shows that although wages can be earned, a gift can only be received. How do our lives and relationship with God change in the light of this reminder? What would it look like for your congregation to let go of self-justification, and rely on God's grace?
- **Following in Abraham's footsteps means being grateful not proud.** Because our salvation is a gift, we have to leave behind any pride or boasting that discriminates and divides. Salvation is freely available to all regardless of gender, race and social status – no matter what we have done or left undone. This is radical news in a world where we are more divided than ever. What would it look like for your church to live out a gospel that welcomes all? How can your church members display gratefulness in the way they serve God and each other in the coming week?
- **Following Abraham's footsteps also means we can live lives of faith.** Although Abraham had the odds stacked against him, he still believed God's promises to him. What would our lives look like if we stepped out in faith, receiving God's salvation but then also stepping into a life of adventure, being confident in the power of God? Justification by faith also makes us adventurous, not cautious, as a growing faith in God enables us to take bold steps of faith like Abraham and his family.
- **How can your church take steps of faith in the coming week, and how can they encourage each other to be bold as they walk with God?**



READING SUGGESTIONS:

- *Romans: A Letter That Makes Sense of Life* by Andrew Ollerton
- *What's So Amazing About Grace?* by Philip Yancey
- *The Message of Romans* by John Stott
- *Romans 1–7 For You* by Timothy Keller



WRITTEN PRAYER

Lord Jesus, we confess that we are a broken people. We confess that we easily justify our sinful and selfish actions and words. Forgive us for pretending to be better than we really are. Today we agree that we have fallen short and desperately need your grace. Thank you that we are not without hope, because you died for us on the cross, you paid the price for our wrong and you offer us all grace and freedom. You truly are the Saviour of all. We thank you for the gift of salvation in our lives.