

KIDS CATECHISM

Book/Chapter: Romans 4  
Category: Basic Christian Doctrine

Date: Week of Oct. 4, 2009  
Number: 04

**Parent to child(ren):** Over the last few weeks we have learned that God has some news for us, really good news. We learned that we are sinners who deserve God's punishment and that there is nothing we can do to fix that. The problem is too big for us. The good news we discovered is that Jesus took the punishment for our sins because there was nothing we could do to be right before God on our own. Jesus took care of our biggest problem, the problem of our sin and guilt.

We are very glad for what Jesus did. We are glad that God gave us His law so that we could know we need Jesus. You may be wondering, though, "What about the people who have never heard God's law? What about the people who have not been told about Jesus in our day or who lived before Jesus came?"

This week, we are going to read about Abraham. Abraham lived a long time before Jesus came to earth and died for our sins – about 2,000 years before! Abraham also lived a long time before God gave his laws to Moses – about 400 years before. Yet God saved Abraham even though he had not heard about God's rules or Jesus dying for him. How does that work? That is what Romans 4 helps us understand.

**Q16.** What about people who lived before Jesus, weren't they saved by following God's laws?

**A16.** *No.* Abraham lived before God even gave His law, so he could not have followed them, yet God saved him. (v. 3)

**Q17.** But what about the people who lived later, didn't they have to obey God's laws to be saved?

**A17.** *No.* God's law was given to show people that they are sinners. They can't follow them to get to Heaven. (v. 15)

**Q18.** Didn't some of the people who lived long ago obey all of God's laws?

**A18.** *No.* Even when they had God's laws, *they broke them just like we do.* Everyone in the OT still needed God's forgiveness, just as we do today. (vv. 6-8)

**Q19.** Last week we learned that we put our faith in Jesus to be forgiven our sins. But how could people who lived before Jesus trust in Him?

**A19.** By believing what they did know about God and *by trusting what God said.* (vv. 21-22)

**Q20.** What does God require that we believe now to be forgiven of our sins?

**A20.** *That Jesus took the punishment for our sins and then rose again to make us right with God.* (vv. 24-25)

*Italicized words* can be used as shortened answers for smaller children. Older children should be helped to understand and memorize the complete answers.

## Scriptures to teach & to help your child(ren) hide in their hearts

### KJV

**Romans 4: 15**, “Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression.”

**Romans 4: 7**, “Saying, blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.”

**Romans 4: 24-25**, “But for us also, to whom [righteousness] shall be imputed, if we believe on Him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.”

### NLT

**Romans 4: 15**, “But the law brings punishment on those who try to obey it. (The only way to avoid breaking the law is to have no law to break!)”

**Romans 4:7**, “Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sins are put out of sight.”

**Romans 4: 24-25**, “It was for us, too, assuring us that God will also declare us to be righteous if we believe in God, who brought Jesus our Lord back from the dead. He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised from the dead to make us right with God.”

### ----- Suggested Memory Work -----

Up to age 6/answers only (shortened, italicized answers)

Ages 7-9/answers plus one scripture

Ages 10-12/answers plus two scriptures

Ages 13 & up/ answers plus all three scriptures

**NOTE TO DADS:** At least one day this week, sit and read **Romans 4** with your family. Talk with them about the message of the chapter. By reading God’s Word to them and passing on to them the things God is teaching you at Calvary Chapel, you will be discipling your own family: equipping them to be strong in the Lord and mighty in His Word!