

# GROWTH GUIDE

WHAT ARE YOU HOLDING ONTO? // ROMANS 4:1-8 // MAY 9-15, 2021

**What is a Growth Guide?** Simply, a tool. This is a tool to help you grow with God. Use this guide to take some notes from the Sunday message and to personally study the scriptures for the week. Talking through the message during the week helps you and your Growth Group turn what God is saying to you into action steps in your life. You can use this study guide with your Growth Group, your family, or on your own.

**What are Growth Groups? Growth Groups** are sermon-based small groups that meet primarily in homes. They use this guide as a tool to help facilitate discussion and learning around God's Word. To join a group, visit [mycpointe.com/groups](http://mycpointe.com/groups)

## PRAY

- Ask God to clear your mind and help you focus. Ask God to speak to you as you work through this guide by yourself and with your Growth Group.

## OPEN

1. What is your main take away from this week's message? How did God speak to you?
2. How have you seen God's goodness over the last week? Share good news with your group.

## READ, HEAR, & LIVE THE WORD OF GOD

### Read Romans 4:1-3

1. What does verse 2 say is NOT the reason Abraham was justified?
  - a. If Abraham was NOT justified by works, then do you think the same principle applies to you? In other words, can you be justified by works? Explain your answer.
2. How does verse 3 explain that Abraham did receive righteousness?
3. Verse 3 uses the term "credited" righteousness. (Some Bible translations use the term "reckoned".) What do you think is significant about righteousness being "credited?" (Hint: Think about balancing your bank account.)

### **Read Romans 4:4-8**

1. According to verse 4, what is NOT credited as a gift, but rather an obligation?
2. According to verse 5, what caused someone to be credited as righteousness?
3. Using only verses 4 & 5, what brings about one's righteousness (or justification)? Someone's works or someone's faith? Explain your answer.
4. Paul quotes King David in verses 7 & 8. How does David state this concept of "righteousness by faith?"
5. What might need to adjust or change in your life as you understand the concept of being "saved by grace" or "saved by faith", vs a salvation of works?

### **PRAY FOR YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS**

As we study these truths over the coming weeks, think of some family members or friends who do not know God and commit to praying for their salvation.

- Spend a few minutes asking God who He wants to be on your list.
- Write their names down on paper and place it in your Bible as a bookmark for Romans.
- Start praying!