**“God’s Promise to Abraham and to You!”**

**(Romans 4:13-17)**

**It is a wonderful blessing that God’s promise to Abraham also has many benefits for us! Today’s Scripture text helps us to understand and appreciate God’s promise by reminding us of…**

 **I. The CONTENT of the Promise (13a)**

 *“For the promise that He should be the heir of the world…”*

* **God Speaking to Abraham**

 *(Gen. 12:1-3)*

* **God Speaking of Us**

 *(Romans 8:16-17; Galatians 3:29; 4:7; Titus 3:7)*

 **II. The CONDITION of the Promise (13b-15)**

 *“not…through the law, but through the righteousness of faith…”*

 **If by “law” then…**

* **Faith would be made USELESS (14)**
* **Promise would be made WORTHLESS (14)**
* **Our situation would be** **HOPELESS (15)**

**III. The CERTAINTY of the Promise (16-17)**

 *“…to the end that the promise might be sure …”*

* **Means of the Certainty**
* **Extent of the Certainty**
* **Basis of the Certainty**

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**(Romans 4:13-17)**

 **Small Group Discussion Guide**

**1. Share something from Sunday’s sermon that was the most**

 **interesting or challenging to you, or that raised a question.**

**2. Romans 4:13 tells us that as Abraham’s spiritual descendants, we**

 **are “heirs of the world.” How does Romans 8:16-17 further explain**

 **this truth? How should this truth affect the way we live?**

**3. Why is the “faith/grace” approach to a relationship with God**

 **far better than the “law” approach? Share why YOU are thankful**

 **that salvation is by grace and not by works.**

**4. How can Gentiles (non-Jews) also be descendants of Abraham?**

**5. Notice that Romans 4:16 says that God’s promise is “SURE.” Is it**

 **possible to be absolutely 100% sure of your salvation? If so how?**

 **If not, why not?**

**Digging Deeper:**

**1. Go back and read the amazing promise that God made to Abraham**

 **in Genesis 12:1-3; 13:14-16 and 15:18-21. What are the three**

 **basic components of the promise? How do we benefit from this**

 **promise?**

**2. Do a study on the word “HEIR” by reading the following verses**

**and jotting down what each says about being God’s heir. Galatians 3:29, 4:7; Romans 8:16-17; Titus 3:7; Hebrews 1:2; 6:17; 11:7; James 2:5. Take a moment to thank God for the amazing inheritance you have in Christ!**

**3. Read Galatians 3:6-29 and note the emphasis on God’s “promise.”**

 **How does this passage help to further explain Romans 4:13-17?**

**4. For next week: Read Romans 4, and then re-read verses 18 to 25**

 **several more times. Jot down some observations and questions**

 **from these 8 verses.**