

# Life Group Discussion Guide

*A BETTER PLAN*  
*Romans 4:9-16*  
Stuart Jones - July 23, 2017

# ROMANS TRANSFORMATION

## INTRODUCTION

"The gift that keeps on giving" is a phrase companies have used to promote various items and it infers a particular gift will provide joy to the receiver for years to come. However, the only real gift "that keeps on giving" is the one freely offered by God and it is grace. God's grace gives us freedom from the guilt and shame of sin. His grace is free because Christ Jesus already paid for it with his life. "Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit." (Psalm 32:2 NIV)

## DISCUSSION STARTER

1. Stuart told about the blunder he and Stacia had while learning to kayak in the still water of a quarry. Tell the group about a time when you had a "quarry" moment.
2. We hear people talk about the grace of God. What is grace?

## EVALUATE IT

1. Stuart said, "The argument that Paul is making is to those in Rome who were Jews who felt that their circumcision and holding to the law of God was more significant and more valuable than the grace extended by the blood of Jesus Christ." Why would laws and physical markers be more appealing than Christ?
2. Read Romans 4:9-12. Paul goes to some lengths to demonstrate that Abraham was justified in the sight of God long before he was ever circumcised. Why was this an important argument for him to make to his Roman audience?
3. Read Romans 4:14-15. Why does the law bring wrath?

## MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. In what ways (if any) are you tempted to seek your validation, your sense of being okay with God and the world, from achievement rather than faith in Christ? What achievements have the strongest pull for you?
2. Stuart said, "Our efforts lead to wrath and his efforts lead to grace." Explain why this is true.

## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."

– Jim Elliot



Interested in joining or starting a Life Group?  
Contact our Life Groups Minister.

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