



Counting

Romans 4:1-25

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Defining moments are those pivotal moments in which the future direction of history hangs in the balance. Personally, defining moments are moments that define us. How we respond, the choices we make, demonstrates who we are and can set the future course of our lives.

1. What are the “Top 5” defining moments of history?
2. What have been some of the defining moments of your life? How did you respond? What was the result?

QUESTION #1: When was Abraham made righteous?

**ANSWER #1: When God counted him righteous.
(verses 1-12)**

1. Why is being “justified by works” not something to boast about before God?
2. Lest we think of our faith as a justifying work of our own righteousness, consider: Where does faith come from? Answer the question and then look at Romans 10:17.
3. What was it that God had promised Abraham? (see Genesis 15:1-6)
4. What does it mean that Abraham “believed” God?
5. What does it mean that God “counted” Abraham as righteous?
6. What has God promised you? Put slightly different: These days, what is God asking you to trust Him for?
7. Consider each of the three declarations about faith. What does each mean and what might each mean for you personally?
 - Faith is a response not an essential for grace (verses 4,5).
 - Faith is a process of learning to live forgiven (verse 6-8).
 - Faith is an opportunity to know God at the heart level (verses 9-12).

QUESTION #2: Why was Abraham made righteous?

**ANSWER #2: Because God counted him righteous.
(verses 13-21)**

1. Looking at verses 17-19, what did Abraham know about God (consider also Genesis 15:5)?
2. How did Abraham’s knowledge of God help him to not waver in his faith?
3. What do you know about God that might help you not to waver in your faith?

**Paul’s Summary
(verses 22-25)**

1. When it comes to facing the defining moments of your life (or any moment) what does it mean for you that righteousness comes as a gift of God’s grace not what you do (or fail to do) or are able to earn by your efforts at being righteous?
2. How might this knowledge help you in the moments when you stumble in your faith?

Take home question: If you had to pick just one insight from this study that speaks specifically to you, what would it be? Why? How do you plan to respond to it?