

## **ROAMING THROUGH ROMANS WEEK 3**

### **DISCUSSION TIME #1**

Read again Romans 4:18-25. This speaks of Abraham's weakness, and God's grace. It's the essence of the gospel, because our righteousness that will bless the whole world cannot be limited to our own strength; it's a gift from God.

#### QUESTION 1:

Share some thoughts about your experience of God in your own weakness, perhaps even in a time of suffering.

What did faith and trust look like in that moment?

What did hope look like in that moment?

What did you learn about the character of God?

#### QUESTION 2:

A lot of our culture rewards performance and the using of our strength for activism. Faith is not the opposite of this, but how might this culture undermine faith, trust, and drawing close to God? What might it look like in our own lives, and also in our church?  
How might we learn to trust God more?

If you have time, read 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

### **DISCUSSION TIME #2**

Reflect on the sense of Christ as a "second Adam" – the founder of new humanity which is restored, founded, shaped by a union with God through faith. Clearly, this is essential to the gospel that Paul is talking about.

Peter proclaims it also, you might want to read 1 Peter 2:9-10 and reflect on those words as well.

#### QUESTIONS:

If someone asked you "Why do you go to church? Or why are you a Christian?", in what way would this picture of God's people help you answer?

"Church" is meant to be an expression of Christian community. Paul is presenting a deeper understanding of a Christ-centred people, a new creation present in this world. How well does our church reflect this gospel truth?