

## Romans 4:13-25

<sup>13</sup> For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world was not given through the law, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. <sup>14</sup> For if those who live by the law are heirs, faith is useless and the promise is worthless, <sup>15</sup> because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law, there is no transgression.

<sup>16</sup> Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may rest on grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring — not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. <sup>17</sup> As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the presence of God, in whom he believed, the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being what does not yet exist.

<sup>18</sup> Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as he had been told, "So shall your offspring be." <sup>19</sup> Without weakening in his faith, he acknowledged the decrepitness of his body (since he was about a hundred years old) and the lifelessness of Sarah's womb. <sup>20</sup> Yet he did not waver through disbelief in the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup> being fully persuaded that God was able to do what He had promised. <sup>22</sup> That is why "it was credited to him as righteousness."

<sup>23</sup> Now the words "it was credited to him" were written not only for Abraham, <sup>24</sup> but also for us, to whom righteousness will be credited—for us who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. <sup>25</sup> He was delivered over to death for our trespasses and was raised to life for our justification.

Berean Study Bible

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1

### **The point of the promise. Romans 4:13-25**

God made His promise. 4:13-15

God's promise is bigger than we think. 13

God's promise is bolder than we think. 14-15

God extends His promise. 4:16-22

God's promise may be accessed by me. 16-17

God's promise must be accepted by me. 17-22

God keeps His promise. 4:23-25

We benefit today. 23-24

We benefit in Christ. 24-25

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2

### **Romans 4:13-25**

God declares His promise. 4:13-15

God makes big promises. 13 "the promise to Abraham and his Descendant"  
God makes bold promises. 14-15 "He would be heir of the world"

God displays His promise. 4:16-22

His promise may be inherited by me. 16-17 "grace and may be guaranteed to all"  
His promise must be incorporated into me. 17-22 "He is our father"

God develops His promise. 4:23-25

From the Old Testament to today. 23-24 "written not only for Abraham"  
From the New Testament to today. 24-25 "for our trespasses... justification"

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3

### **Look how good my life is now. Romans 4:13-25**

I have an unbreakable promise. 4:13-15 "promise... promise"

Our God is a promise maker. 13 "promise to Abraham and his Descendant"  
Our God is a promise keeper. 13 "Abraham's Descendant would be heir of the world"

I have transforming grace. 4:16-22 "grace to confirm the promise"

God's grace lifts me up. 16 "so that it may rest on grace"  
God's truth keeps me up. 20 "strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God"

I have a resurrected Saviour. 4:23-25 "raised up from the dead"

Christ's crucifixion gives me eternal life. 25a "over to death for our trespasses"  
Christ's resurrection gives me abundant life. 25b "raised to life for our justification"

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4

### **God wants to bless you. Romans 4:13-25**

God promised to bless you. 4:13-15

You are blessed by faith. 13-14  
You are not blessed by deeds. 14-15

God plans to bless you. 4:16-22

God has opened a line for blessing.  
God has given examples of blessing.

God proceeds to bless you. 4:23-25

You are blessed by believing. 23-24 "credited... for us who believe in Him"  
You are blessed by Jesus. 25 "He was... for our trespasses... for our justification"

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A

### **Blessed! Romans 4:13-15**

God's promise is received by faith, not law. 13  
God's promise is independent of law. 14  
God's promise is by grace, not law. 15

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B

**Go with faith. Romans 4:16-22**

Faith goes with grace. 16 "faith rests on grace"  
Faith goes with life. 17 "faith in the God who gives life"  
Faith goes with hope. 18 "in hope, had faith"  
Faith goes with glory. 20 "in faith, gave glory"  
Faith goes with righteousness. 22 "faith was credited as righteousness."

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C

**Blessings, in black and white. Romans 4:23-25**

"not written for his sake alone" 23

The Bible was written for us to have righteousness. 4:22-24 "righteousness... righteousness"

The Bible is a factual record - acknowledge it.

The Bible is a faithful record - accept it.

The Bible was written for us to have faith. 4:24 "for us who have faith"

I have a saving God. 24 "believe in Him"

I have a living Lord. 24 "raised Jesus our Lord from the dead"

The Bible was written for us to have justification. 4:25 "for our justification"

I can be saved from my past.

I can be saved for my future.

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**Other possible titles**

On the road for the long haul.

All in God's own sweet time.

Faith: the building blocks for life.

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**Greek lexicon, cross-references, commentary, and illustrations**

The core theme, and parenthetical statements

As the main themes of this text unfold, numerous parenthetical statements are added.

These statements illustrate and develop the main themes, but they also complexify the text

and may obscure the main themes. So, it may be helpful to structure the text with the main or core themes in black font, and the parenthetical or derivative statements in grey.

As you read on, you will notice that the crucifixion, resurrection, and justification, are in grey. But before you go into a theological tailspin of legitimate complaint that these are anything but parenthetical themes, please note that – as vitally important as these facts are – they are not the core theme of these particular verses. These essential theological themes are the foundation and validation of the core themes of these verses.

As you examine the black and grey fonts it becomes clearer that the main themes are the faithfulness of God who keeps His promises, and the faith of Abraham who believed God would keep His promises. A secondary theme then also appears. We who have the same faith as Abraham, become the children of Abraham, and are justified as was Abraham.

<sup>13</sup>For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world was not given through the law, but through the righteousness that comes by faith.

<sup>14</sup>For if those who live by the law are heirs, faith is useless and the promise is worthless, <sup>15</sup>because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law, there is no transgression.

<sup>16</sup>Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may rest on grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring; not only to those who are of the law [ie Jews], but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham [ie Gentiles].

He is the father of us all. <sup>17</sup>As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations." He is our father in the presence of God, in whom he believed, the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being what does not yet exist.

<sup>18</sup>Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as he had been told, "So shall your offspring be."

<sup>19</sup>Without weakening in his faith, he acknowledged the decrepitness of his body (since he was about a hundred years old) and the lifelessness of Sarah's womb.

<sup>20</sup>Yet he did not waver through disbelief in the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God,

<sup>21</sup>being fully persuaded that God was able to do what He had promised. <sup>22</sup>That is why "it was credited to him as righteousness."

<sup>23</sup>Now the words "it was credited to him" were written not only for Abraham, <sup>24</sup>but also for us, to whom righteousness will be credited;

for us who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead.

<sup>25</sup>He was delivered over to death for our trespasses and was raised to life for our justification.

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The promise to Abraham and his descendant was he would be heir of the world, 13a

All sound Biblical interpretation is grounded in two core principles. First, is the pre-eminence of Jesus. "In all things He has the pre-eminence." Colossians 1:18b. Second, the New Testament is the authoritative interpretation of the Old Testament. With these two priorities in mind, let us examine this Scripture.

The **promise** to Abraham and his descendant was he would be heir of the world, 13a

The noun ἐπαγγελία [Strong's 1860] (pronounced eh-pang-el-ee-ah) is a compound word consisting of the preposition ἐπί meaning 'on, upon, on top of' reinforcing and emphasising the remainder of the compound; plus the noun ἀγγελία meaning 'announcement, message'. Hence, ἐπαγγελία means 'a strong, clear, forthright announcement, an announcement taken to the next level, a promise, a declaration of commitment'.

What was the promise given to Abraham?

<sup>1</sup>Then the LORD said to Abram, "Leave your country, your kindred, and your father's household, and go to the land I will show you.

<sup>2</sup>I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you;

I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.

<sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you; and all the families of the Earth will be blessed through you."

<sup>4</sup>So Abram departed, as the LORD had directed him, Genesis 12:1-4a

Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "I will give this land to your Descendant (singular)." So, Abram built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him. Genesis 12:7

<sup>14</sup>After Lot had departed, the LORD said to Abram, "Now lift up your eyes from the place where you are, and look to the north and south and east and west, <sup>15</sup>for all the land that you see, I will give to you and your Descendant (singular) forever. <sup>16</sup>I will make your Descendant (singular) like the dust of the Earth, so that if one could count the dust of the Earth, then your Descendant (singular) could be counted. <sup>17</sup>Get up and walk around the land, through its length and breadth, for I will give it to you." Genesis 13:14-17

<sup>4</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to Abram, saying, "This one will not be your heir, but one who comes from your own body will be your heir." <sup>5</sup>And the LORD took him outside and said, "Now look to the heavens and count the stars, if you are able." Then He told him, "So shall your Descendant (singular) be." Genesis 15:4-5

No longer will you be called Abram, but your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. Genesis 17:5

<sup>7</sup>I will establish My covenant as an everlasting covenant between Me and you and your Descendant (singular) after you, to be your God and the God of your Descendant (singular) after you. <sup>8</sup>And to you and your Descendant (singular) I will give the land where you are residing—all the land of Canaan—as an eternal possession; and I will be their God." Genesis 17:7-8

<sup>15</sup>And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time, <sup>16</sup>saying, "By Myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your only son, <sup>17</sup>I will surely bless you, and I will multiply your Descendant (singular) like the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore. Your Descendant (singular) will possess the gate of their enemies. <sup>18</sup>And through your

Descendant (singular) all nations of the earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.” Genesis 22:15-18

<sup>8</sup>By faith, Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, without knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith, he **dwelt in the promised land** as a stranger in a foreign country. He lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. Hebrews 11:8-10

The promise to Abraham **and his Descendant** (sgl) was he would be heir of the world, 13a

And the LORD took him outside and said, “Now look to the heavens and count the stars, if you are able.” Then He told him, “So shall your **Descendant** (singular) be.” Genesis 15:5

But God said to Abraham, “Do not be distressed about the boy and your maidservant. Listen to everything that Sarah tells you, for through Isaac your **Descendant** (singular) will be reckoned. Genesis 21:12

For God had said to him, “Through Isaac, your **Descendant** (singular) will be reckoned.” Hebrews 11:18

I will multiply your **Descendant** (singular) as the stars in the sky, and I will give to your **Descendant** (singular) all these lands, and they; all nations of the Earth, will be blessed in your **Descendant** (singular). Genesis 26:4 (my literal translation)

People will come from east and west and north and south, and will recline at the table in the Kingdom of God. Luke 13:29

Romans 9:7-8

Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his **Descendant** (singular). It does not say “and to descendants (plural),” as of many, but as of One, “and to your **Descendant** (singular),” who is Christ. Galatians 3:16

The promise to Abraham and his descendant was he would be **heir of the world**, 13a

Your descendants will be like the dust of the Earth, and you will spread out to the west and east and north and south. All the families of the Earth will be blessed through you and your descendants. Genesis 28:14

The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it. Psalm 24:1

<sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. <sup>9</sup>“All this I will give You,” he said, “if You will fall down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup>“Away from Me, Satan!” Jesus told him. “For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.’” Matthew 4:8-10

You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out his desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, refusing to uphold the truth, because

there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, because he is a liar and the father of lies. John 8:44

<sup>16</sup>Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may rest on grace and may be guaranteed to every descendant (singular) of Abraham. Not only to those who are of the Law, but also to those who are of the faith of **Abraham. He is the father of us all.**

<sup>17</sup>As it is written: "I have made you **Father of many nations.**" **He is our father** in the presence of God, in whom he believed, the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being what does not yet exist. Romans 4:16-17

Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so **became the father of many nations**, just as he had been told, "So shall your Descendant (sgl) be." Romans 4:18

<sup>6</sup>It is not as though God's Word has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel. <sup>7</sup>Nor because they are Abraham's descendants are they all his children. On the contrary, "Through Isaac your offspring will be reckoned." <sup>8</sup>So it is not the children of the flesh who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise who are regarded as a descendant (singular). Romans 9:6-8

Understand, then, that those who have faith are sons of Abraham. Galatians 3:7

He redeemed us in order that the blessing promised to Abraham would come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit. Galatians 3:14

And if you (plural) belong to Christ, then **you (plural) are Abraham's descendant** (singular), and heirs (plural) according to the promise. Galatians 3:29

Now you (plural), brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. Galatians 4:28

<sup>20</sup>which He exerted (Perfect) in Christ when He raised (Aorist) Him from the dead and seated (Aorist) Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup>And God put (Aorist) everything under His feet and made (Aorist) Him head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills (Present) all in all. Ephesians 1:20-23

<sup>9</sup>God exalted (Aorist) Him to the highest place and gave (Aorist) Him the name above all names, <sup>10</sup>that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow (Aorist), in Heaven and on Earth and under the Earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue confess (Aorist) that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:9-11

<sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, without knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he dwelt in the promised land as a stranger in a foreign country. He lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

<sup>11</sup>By faith Sarah, even though she was barren and beyond the proper age, was enabled to conceive a child, because she considered Him faithful who had promised.

<sup>12</sup>And so from one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

<sup>13</sup>All these people died in faith, without having received the things they were promised. However, they saw them and welcomed them from afar. And they acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.

<sup>14</sup>Now those who say such things show that they are seeking a country of their own.

<sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>Instead, they were longing for a better country, a Heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them. Hebrews 11:8-16

being **fully persuaded** that God was able to do what He had promised. 21

The verb πληροφορέω [Strong's 4135] (pronounced play-rof-or-eh-oh) is a compound word consisting of the adjective πλήρης meaning 'abounding, complete, full, replete' plus the verb φέρω meaning 'to bear, bring, carry'. Hence, πληροφορέω means 'to bring the full amount, present the complete evidence, to have full assurance, to be fully persuaded, be fully convinced, to fully accomplish'.

#### Old Testament quotes in this text

Romans 4:13-25	Old Testament reference
<p>As it is written: <b>"I have made you a father of many nations."</b> He is our father in the presence of God, in whom he believed, the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being what does not yet exist.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Romans 4:17</p>	<p><sup>3</sup> Then Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, <sup>4</sup> "As for Me, this is My covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. <sup>5</sup> No longer will you be called Abram, but your name will be Abraham, for <b>I have made you a father of many nations.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Genesis 17:5</p>
<p>Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as he had been told, <b>"So shall your offspring be."</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Romans 4:18</p>	<p><sup>5</sup> And the LORD took him outside and said, "Now look to the heavens and count the stars, if you are able." Then He told him, <b>"So shall your offspring be."</b></p> <p><sup>6</sup> Abram believed the LORD, and it was credited to him as righteousness.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Genesis 15:5</p>
<p><sup>21</sup>being fully persuaded that God was able to do what He had promised. <sup>22</sup>That is why <b>"it was credited to him as righteousness."</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Romans 4:22</p>	<p><sup>5</sup> And the LORD took him outside and said, "Now look to the heavens and count the stars, if you are able." Then He told him, "So shall your offspring be."</p> <p><sup>6</sup> Abram believed the LORD, and <b>it was credited to him as righteousness.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Genesis 15:6</p>

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## Church service featuring Romans 4:13-25

### Aim

Celebrate God's promises are ours, in Christ.

### Pastoral Care

Your congregation has people who have suffered from those who broke promises to them. Wedding vows of fidelity have been broken. Financial deals have not been honoured. Confidences have been betrayed. Phone calls have not been made. These broken promises have left deep wounds. Scars cover the wounds, but scratch a broken promise and all the pain and grief will flow again.

God is a promise keeper. We first need to appreciate Him. Then we need to commit to be like Him.

### Theology

Fundamentalist Dispensationalists will struggle with the Biblical teaching that God's promises are primarily about Jesus, not about Jews. But focus on Jesus, then on God's promises to those who are in Jesus.

### Call to worship

I will not withdraw My loving devotion,  
nor ever betray My faithfulness.

I will not violate My covenant  
or alter the utterance of My lips.

Once and for all I have sworn by My holiness,  
I will not lie, Psalm 89:33-35

God is not a mortal, that He should lie,  
or a human, that He should change His mind. Numbers 23:19a

For all the promises of God find their Yes in Christ.

That is why it is through Him that we utter our Amen to God for His glory.  
2 Corinthians 1:20

### Children's Message

God keeps His promises. We must keep our promises too.

Reprise the 'Father Abraham' song from Romans 4:1-12.

### Communion

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off every encumbrance and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with endurance the race set out for us. <sup>2</sup>Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup>Consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. Hebrews 12:1-3

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## Music and songs

### Songs about the Old Testament quotes

Ancient words, Ot 94  
Continue, continue, continue in His Word... know the Truth  
Every promise of Your Word (Getty-Townend)  
Firm foundation... I put my hope in Your holy Word, MP 999  
Red letters (D C Talk)  
So many books (Michael Card), Ot 81  
The Book (Michael Card)  
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, Ot 63

### Songs about Jesus being heir of the world

All hail King Jesus, 237 / SiS 219  
Amazing love [You are my King], Ot 8  
Crown Him with many crowns  
How majestic is Your name in all the earth, 437  
King of Kings and Lord of Lords, SiS 409  
Majesty, worship His Majesty, SiS 206  
Meekness and majesty, Ot 14  
O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the Earth  
Servant King, 674  
Shepherd King, 726  
Speak O Lord | Your majestic love and authority, Ot 55  
The King is coming, Ot 40  
The King of Love my Shepherd is, 86  
The splendour of the King, How great is our God, 1020

### Songs about promise

Every promise of Your Word (Getty-Townend)  
God is good, all the time... He has promised, to never leave you (Moen)  
Have faith in God... The promise of glory, (Bullock)  
I am a promise  
I'm not ashamed... At the cross... Firm as His throne His promise stands, H 732  
It is no secret... Take Him at His promise,  
Jesus is the answer... everything He's promised He will do it for you, Ot 82  
Just as I am... Because Thy promise I believe, H 392  
My heart is filled with thankfulness... Whose ev'ry promise is enough, Ot 97  
Now is the time... Your Word, fulfilled, this promise sure  
Promise (M Card)  
Shout to the Lord... Nothing compares to the promise I have in you, 730  
Speak, O Lord... And by grace we'll stand on Your promises (Getty-Townend)  
Stand up and bless the Lord... Stand up and speak His promises, (Allen) Ot 71  
Standing on the promises, H 690  
Teach me to dance... Teach me to trust in the word of Your promise, 728

Tell out my soul... Tender to me, the promise of His Word, H 102  
Thanksgiving... That your promises are sure (R Smith) Ot 28  
There is a higher throne... Believing hearts find promised grace, (Getty), Ot 95  
There's a quiet understanding... It's a promise that He gives us, FE 21  
'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus... Just to rest upon His promise, H 701  
To God be the glory... To every believer, the promise of God, H 741  
Turn your eyes upon Jesus... His Word shall not fail you. He promised! Ch 147  
We are a people of power... We are a people of promise, SiS 652  
Worthy of all praise... Promised Redeemer, OT 1  
Your promises.

#### Songs about faith

At the cross | I'm not ashamed... <sup>ch</sup>It was there by faith I received my sight, H 732  
Be bold! Be strong! | I'm walking in faith and victory, SiS 465  
Be still, for the presence of the Lord | <sup>3</sup>in faith receive from Him. 527  
By faith we see the hand of God (Getty)  
Could that faith you've been holding... There's gonna be a better day  
Everything that has breath | <sup>1</sup>Portioned by faith, we're destined to win. Ot 49  
God is good all the time | <sup>br</sup>And through the eyes of faith (Don Moen)  
God on the mountain | <sup>2</sup>That's where your faith is really put to the test, Ot 121  
Have faith in God (Bullock)  
He's everything to me | <sup>3</sup>Till by faith I met Him face to face, Ot 22  
Humble yourself | <sup>3</sup>By putting your faith and trust in the Lord, Ot 127  
I walk by faith, Ot 32  
Knowing You, Jesus | To possess by faith what I could not earn (Kendrick)  
Looking for the city | <sup>1</sup>But with my new eyes of faith (Tunney), Ot 106  
My faith has found a resting place, H 669  
My faith it is an oaken staff.  
O church arise | <sup>1</sup>With shield of faith and belt of truth, Ot 68  
Oh Lord you lead me... Have faith in God (Bullock), Ot 80  
Out on a limb | <sup>1,2</sup>Put some action in your faith (S W Brown)  
Passin' the faith along to my brother  
Rejoice, Rejoice, Christ is in you | <sup>1</sup>By faith shall be made possible.  
Speak, O Lord | <sup>1</sup>In our acts of love and our deeds of faith. Ot 55  
Teach me Thy way | <sup>1</sup>More by faith, less by sight, C 262 (536)  
The Church's one foundation | <sup>2</sup>One Lord, one faith, one birth. H 289  
There is a fountain | <sup>5</sup>E'er since by faith I saw the stream, H 694  
Therefore, being justified by faith, SiS 29  
There's an ember, deep within me... Set my faith on fire  
We are His people | <sup>ch</sup>By grace, we are saved through faith, Ot 6  
We who shunned the hand that fed us... Now by faith  
Yield not to temptation | <sup>3</sup>Through faith we will conquer, H 749

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#### Thought starters for personal reflection or group discussion

1. Should Christians be involved in politics in any way? What are some advantages, and dangers, of political involvement?
  2. In what ways does the promise to Abraham that his Descendant, Jesus, has inherited the world, v23, influence our view of world events?
  3. Explain what is meant by: 'Abraham is our father', and 'Abraham is the father of many nations', v16-17.
  4. The words of the Bible were written not only for people of long ago, but also for us, v23-24a. What are some practical steps you could tell yourself, to help you learn from the Bible?
  5. Why do you think Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection, v24-25, feature so prominently in the Bible?
  6. Suggest some ways in which v25 should impact our daily lives.
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