

Romans 4:13-25

Pray that God would give you faith to believe, even when it is hard to see his promises coming into reality. And that God would grant sight and faith to people who do not know him.

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Look Closer... Paul claims that the promise given to Abraham didn't come "through the law, but the righteousness of faith" (v. 13). What is it about faith that brings righteousness? It's because by faith, we cling to God, rather than ourselves: "That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace" (v. 16). God's "grace" is His the miracle that leaps across the gap between us and Him, in order to grant us righteousness.

Think about it... But having faith does not mean that we won't have doubts. Faith is continuing to cling to Jesus, even when mentally and emotionally it's hard to do so. Paul says the same thing about Abraham vv. 19-20. There were many things that, to Abraham, seemed unbelievable. God was making huge promises! Yet Abraham leaned into God, worshiped Him, and clung to God, even when it was hard.

Doubt will always follow faith; but, will faith follow doubt?

Pray about it... There will always be seasons when faith becomes difficult. But faith is a miraculous movement of the heart towards the invisible God, so to have any memory of faith, to have any inclination to believe in this God, is to do the impossible! So take heart, and pray that God would encourage you and the Church in moments of doubt. Pray that we would know that faith is a miracle, and that any amount of faith is a gift worthy of pushing us to praise God for.