

Romans 5:1-2 (NIV)

5 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we* boast in the hope of the glory of God.*

*Footnotes: *Romans 5:1 Many manuscripts let us; *Romans 5:2 Or let us*

Shalom: God's Peaceful Place

OPEN

- What do you think of when you hear the word "shalom?"
- Before digging into our passage, let's look at what Paul is talking about just before today's passage. Skim Romans 4:18-25.
- What do you notice about Abraham's faith?
- What do you notice about God's role in making people righteous?
- Now read Romans 5:1-2 together.

STUDY

- According to these verses, what benefits does a person of faith gain?
- How do you see the past, present, and future in these benefits?
- How would you describe "faith", using Abraham (in Romans 4:18-25) as an example?
- What does "peace with God" look like as described here?
- In what ways does our world need this peace today?
- In what ways have you experienced this peace in your own life? If you haven't yet experienced it, why do you think that is?
- How might we help others enter God's peace, as individuals, as a small group, and as a church?

PRAY

- Pray together, thanking the Lord for faith and its benefits. Then ask him to help us and our church congregation live into the peace he gives so that others may know his peace as well!
- *If time:* pass out 3x5 cards and write the name of someone you know who needs God's peace in their lives. Put the card in a place where it will remind you to pray God's peace for them each day this next week.