THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

HABAKKUK 2:4

1	Ha	bakkuk 2:4 explains that the righteous live by their faith. Can you define the key terms "righteous" and "faith" in the passage?
		What evidence displays a person's true faith?
		How does one become righteous (Isaiah 53:11; Rom. 3:21-24; Gal. 3:10-14)?
2		ad Galatians 3:6-9. According to that passage, how did Abraham become right with God? In other words, what evidence resulted in God's rdict declaring Abraham righteous?
		How was this a model for the Galatians – people who were non-Jewish, living 1500 years after Abraham? How did this undermine the Judaizers' argument?
		What difference does it make when you base your relationship with God upon how well you keep a list of rules, rather than living in light of the truth that God accepts you through faith?
		Examine your motives this past week. Why was it that you did (or didn't do) certain things? Were you trying to earn or retain God's approval, or were you living in light of the fact that you have been freely accepted by grace through faith?
3	Fai the	ith cannot be equated with a work that renders one righteous before God. Instead, faith justifies because it unites one with Christ who is righteousness of believers. Faith is fundamentally receptive and depends on Christ.
		Why is it important to say that faith is not our righteousness? If it were, what would we be inclined to do (Hint – Eph. 2:9; Rom. 4:1-5)
		What do the following verses contribute to the conclusion that faith is not a work (1Cor. 12:9; Rom. 3:27-28; Gal. 2:16; Eph. 2:8-9)?
		We know from everyday life that faith honors the one who is trusted. If you trust your mechanic, you honor his integrity. If your coach calls a play and you make a scene in front of the crowd so that it is evident that you think the coach's play call is ridiculous, you dishonor your coach. If your doctor diagnoses you with a disease and prescribes medicine, you call into question the doctor's competence if you fail to follow his advice. Faith honors God because it considers him to be trustworthy. Have you ever considered that your faith in God is an act of honor and worship? What are some practical ways you could express faith in God and thereby honor him?

4	To "live by" something means to rely on it for your happiness or fulfillment. Whatever you live by is est. It is the foundation – what gives meaning, confidence, and definition to your life.	sentially the bottom line of your life.
	In your own experience, what does it mean to live by faith and what does it mean to live by the law?	
5	Read Galatians 3:10-14. Which truth in that passage excites you most today, and why? In what ways has t Christ's death more than you did before?	his passage enabled you to appreciate
	If Galatians 3:10 is true, how can God credit us as righteous without being unjust?	
	How does having righteousness credited to us change the way we see ourselves, our Christian lives, and	Jesus himself?
	Has this passage given you more or less confidence in the fact that your sins have actually been paid for by Christ?	PRAYER REQUESTS
6	Read these excerpts from Session 6, the Council of Trent "If anyone says that the faith which justifies is nothing else but trust in the divine mercy which pardons sins because of Christ, or that it is trust alone by which we are justified, let him be anathema (Session 6 Cannon 12). The believer through observance of the commands of God through the church increases that justice received through the grace of God, and they are further justified (Session 6 Cannon 10). If anyone says that justice once received is neither preserved nor increased in the sight of God by good works, but that the works themselves are no more than the effects or signs that one has been justified, let him be anathema (Session 6 Cannon 24)."	
	Ø Do you think it support sola fide?	