

# YOUTH MINISTRY

## Teen Church at RFBC

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in March 2026



# Welcome and Framing

Faith

Have you ever trusted  
someone without  
knowing the full plan?

What made it hard or  
easy?

# Scripture Reading

- Romans 4: 1-5
- Romans 4: 13-17
- John 3: 1-17

# Abraham: Faith Counted as Righteousness (Romans 4)

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Righteousness – being in right standing with God

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Justification – God declaring a sinner righteous—not because of works but because of faith in Christ.

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Grace – God’s unmerited favor

# Abraham: Faith Counted as Righteousness, Cont'd (Romans 4)

- Paul points back to Abraham. Before the law. Before the rules. Before religious systems.
  - Abraham did not earn God's promise.
  - God made a promise.
  - Abraham believed God
  - God counted that faith as righteousness.
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- Bottom line: You don't work for salvation. You receive it freely.

# Nicodemus – You Must be Born Again (John 3)

- Who is Nicodemus
- Why did he come at night?
- Jesus tells him You must be born again (from above).
- Key term:
  - Regeneration – a spiritual rebirth brought about by the Holy Spirit.
- You are not a Christian at birth.
- You are not saved by your family's faith.
- You must personally trust Christ.

# The Heart of It All (John 3:16-17)

- God loved (loves) the world and everyone in it.
- “Whoever believes” means just that. It’s not about qualifying or earning.
- Believes: trusts, relies on, put your weight on.
- God did not send Jesus to condemn us.
- Jesus did not come to shame us.
- He came to save you.
- You must trust God.

# Remember

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You are loved by grace not by performance.

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That doesn't mean you shouldn't give your best.

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Grace isn't about using God because he will forgive you.

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Salvation is through grace alone.

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The object of faith is Jesus Christ.

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Good works follow salvation—they do not cause it.

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For Baptists, salvation is personal, conversional, and of the Spirit.