



**Shalom Church Adult's Christian Education Class**  
**Our Response – Repentance & Faith**  
**8<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

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3. *“Repentance is not just an optional plug-in to the Christian life. It is absolutely crucial to it, marking out those who have been saved by God from those who have not.”*

Greg Gilbert

Is this Biblical?

4. *“The difference between an unconverted and a converted man is not that the one has sins and the other has none; but that the one takes part with his cherished sins against a dreaded God and the other takes part with a reconciled God against his hated sins.”*

William Arnot

Do you agree? Discuss.

### Faith

The other side of the coin is *faith*. Take some time to read **ROMANS 4:16-25** whereby *Paul* painted a picture of genuine faith, drawn from the life of *Abraham*.

5. What had God promised to do for *Abraham*? (For background, see **GENESIS 15:1-6**).
6. What reasons did *Abraham* have to doubt God's promise (**verse 19**)?
7. What was *Abraham's* attitude towards God's promise (**verses 20-21**)? What does this teach us about faith?

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8. What did God do in response to Abraham's faith (**verse 22**)? What does this have to do with us (**verses 23-25**)?

To some people, *faith* is nothing more than just a belief in some facts (mere mental assent) – you believe in Jesus like you believe Lee Kuan Yew was Prime Minister of Singapore in 1965. While this may be a true belief, yet it does not require anything more than mental assent from me, and it most likely will not affect my life in any big way. But when the Bible talks about faith, it means wholehearted trust. Faith is *reliance*. Faith is *trust*.

So we have faith in Jesus is to rely and trust Jesus. But what exactly are we relying on Jesus for? Relying on Jesus to secure for us a righteous verdict from God the Judge, rather than a guilty one! This is the glorious truth that we are justified by faith alone.

When we believed in Jesus, our sins are transferred to Jesus and He bore the punishment for us. Hence, our sins are forgiven. His perfect righteousness is transferred to us, and so God declares us as righteous, as if we have not sinned. As a result, we can come into God's presence.

*Because the sinless Savior died  
My sinful soul is counted free  
For God the Just is satisfied  
To look on Him and pardon me*

9. When talking about salvation, we often hear Christians saying, "*Faith alone, but not a faith that is alone!*"

(a) What do you understand by "*Faith alone*"?

(b) What do you understand by "*not a faith that is alone*"?

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10. How should a Biblical understanding of our response to the gospel – turn from sin and trust in Christ – impact:
- (a) How you interact with non-Christians?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - (b) Whom the church accepts as members?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - (c) Your relationships in the church?

\*\* Have you started to take steps to share the gospel with your friend?

If yes, how did it go?

If no, why not?

(Get either your RTBT Group or Care Group involved in this gospel outreach).

\*\* Start reading Chapter 1 of **Evangelism: How The Whole Church Speaks of Jesus**