



SERIES: A SEASON OF HOPE

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Thursday, 12/03/20

Scripture: Romans 3:3-4a

TITLE: The Struggle of Faithfulness

Unconditional love is probably the greatest gift that we can give someone, but as a child, I remember wondering, could I do something that would make my parents never love me again? This actually caused me quite a bit of anxiety - to think that my behaviors or my words might actually cause my mom to leave me. It may seem irrational, but I think everyone struggles with this, in some way, shape, or form.

It's the struggle of faithfulness. If I'm not faithful to a loved one or a friend, will they in fact remain faithful to me? But this faithfulness struggle doesn't just impact our human relationships – it even impacts our relationship with God.

If you are struggling with fearing God's faithfulness to you because of your life, the Apostle Paul has some encouragement for you today:

[Romans 3:3-4a \(ESV\), “What if some were unfaithful? Does their faithlessness nullify the faithfulness of God? ⁴ By no means!”](#)

Paul asked the question, “What if some were unfaithful?” Well, let's see what he's talking about: He is talking about Jewish people who essentially rejected God and what God had said.

This reminds me of the unconditional promise that God made to Abraham in the Book of Genesis. God promised to make Abraham a great nation, regardless of what Abraham did, or did not do. God promised to be faithful, even if Abraham was unfaithful.

Well, Paul here is saying a similar thing. Does your unfaithfulness to God stop God's faithfulness to you? “By no means,” Paul says.

One of my favorite passages in all of Scripture is Ephesians 2. Ephesians 2 paints a beautiful picture of God's faithfulness to the most unfaithful and despicable people, namely mankind. In Ephesians 2, Paul says, we were dead because of our sin, but God, because of His great love, made us alive with Christ. And because of that, we become God's masterpiece, created for good works.

If I could summarize that passage, and even this Romans 3 passage, it would be this: as God's children - those who are saved by grace - we do not perform for God's love. We perform *from* God's love. When God saves us, there is nothing we can do to stop that salvific power. There's nothing we can do to lose our Salvation. There's nothing we can do to displease God, to the point where He abandons us.

Our unfaithfulness may be sinful, and may be offensive to God, but God says, “I will never leave you nor forsake you” (Heb. 13:5, ESV).

Does this mean we should not pursue faithfulness? No. God paid a high price for us. Paul would call us bondservants to King Jesus. Our faithfulness does matter to God, but it will never separate us from His great love.

Today, if you're struggling with doubting God's faithfulness because of your actions, I challenge you to stop. God wants you to stop. God wants you to pursue Him with everything you are, because He moved Heaven and Earth to save you. That kind of love gives us the reassurance we've always hoped for and we desperately need.

Today, remain faithful – not out of obligation – but out of your great love for your Savior and your King.