

How To Live Like a King's Kid (Romans, Part 3)

If you are in the church, you are ROYALTY. That's why the church in Scripture is called: a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people, sons of God, kings and priests unto God, heirs of the kingdom, children of God, trees of righteousness, household of God, children of Abraham, seed of Abraham, the Jew inwardly, the Israel of God, children of promise, heirs of the promise, elect of God, the true circumcision, priests of the Lord, ministers of God, the holy people, the redeemed of the Lord, heirs of God, the people of God, the election, the remnant of grace, and the church of the firstborn. **We are King's Kids!**

But many of God's children live far below their privileges. That's why we're studying the book of Romans – it tells us how to access the royalty that is already within us through the power of God's Spirit.

Have you ever bought something that promised results but didn't deliver?

- No Name foods promise taste (No Name brand is a Loblaw's brand!)
- diet foods promise weight loss (what's with "Weight Watchers"?!)
- fitness equipment promises a slim muscular physique (ab roller, thigh master, pec blaster, butt buster, whatever!)
- and why do we have extended warranty plans? why not take that money and just build a better product in the first place?
- old cars – Dodge Dart, Honda Civic

Many times the problem is that manufacturers assume some kind of **PERFORMANCE** (or at least intelligence!) on our part! AND they don't want to get sued ... that's why they've started using small print like this:

- On a package of peanuts: "Warning: May contain nuts."
- On a microwave: "Do not use for drying pets."
- On an iron: "Do not iron clothes on body."
- On a cardboard sunshield: "Do not drive with sunshield in place."
- On a curling iron: "For external use only."
- On a hair dryer: "Do not use while sleeping."
- On a can of deodorant: "Caution: Do not spray in eyes."
- On a stroller: "Caution: Remove infant before folding for storage."

Ridiculous lawsuits today ...

- *suing McDonalds because a customer gained weight, because hot coffee burned someone, because a milkshake caused an accident*
- *criminal falling through skylight / bank robbery and Jim Fudge*
- *people trying to make a fast buck or avoid personal responsibility!*

To protect ourselves against "victims," exaggerated claims and false promises, we develop a healthy cynicism. That's why we say things like "if it sounds too good to be true, then IT'S TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE" and "if you want something done right, then **DO IT YOURSELF.**"

But the kingdom of God is a backwards kingdom – the way to be exalted is to humble yourself, the way to receive is to give, the way to become great is to become the least. So, in God's kingdom, if you want something done right, then you have to **LET GOD DO IT!**

Romans 4 talks about Abraham and the promise God gave that he and Sarah would have a son when they were 100 and 90 years old! Can you imagine?! And we wonder why Sarah laughed?!

How To Know If You Are Ready To Have Children:

Dressing Test

Obtain one large, unhappy, live octopus. Stuff into a small net bag, making sure that all arms stay inside.

Grocery Store Test

Borrow one or two goats and take them with you to shop for groceries. Always keep them in sight and pay for anything they eat or damage.

Feeding Test

Obtain a large plastic milk jug. Fill halfway with water. Suspend from the ceiling with a stout cord. Start the jug swinging. Try to insert spoonfuls of soggy cereal (such as Fruit Loops) into the mouth of the jug, while pretending to be an airplane. Dump the contents of the jug on the floor.

Physical Test (For Women)

Obtain a large beanbag chair and attach it to the front of your clothes. Leave it there for 9 months. Now remove 10 of the beans.

We have grandparents in our church family who are in their forties! Can you imagine a 90-year-old first time mother? Talk about mood swings!

God promised Abraham something IMPOSSIBLE (that he would have a son), and promises us something just as impossible (that sinful human beings can become King's Kids!). Here is the key to the impossibility:

Romans 4:20-21 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully **persuaded** that, what he had **promised**, he was able also to **perform**.

Three key words: Abraham was **PERSUADED** because it was God who **PROMISED** it, that the impossibility would be **PERFORMED**. (Later, the very same test of faith would come around again when God asked Abraham to sacrifice his "miracle baby" on Mount Moriah!

Either GOD will perform it or YOU will perform it – it's your choice! (but you can't have it both ways!)

Romans 4:2-5 (KJV) ² For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to glory; but not before God. ³ For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. ⁴ Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. ⁵ But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

(The Message) ⁴ If you're a hard worker and do a good job, you deserve your pay; we don't call your wages a gift. ⁵ But if you see that the job is too big for you, that it's something only God can do, and you trust him to do it—you could never do it for yourself no matter how hard and long you worked—well, that trusting-him-to-do-it is what gets you set right with God, by God. Sheer gift.

OUR GOD CAN BE TRUSTED TO KEEP HIS PROMISES!

Joshua 23:14 And, behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth: and ye know in all your hearts and in all your souls, that not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof.

Psalms 37:23-25 The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way. ²⁴ Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand. ²⁵ I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

Hebrews 6:17-18 Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath: ¹⁸ That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:

2 Corinthians 1:20 For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

Titus 1:2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

Mark 10:27 And Jesus looking upon them saith, With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible.

Luke 1:37 For with God nothing shall be impossible.

Luke 18:27 And he said, The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.

Mark 9:23 Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

THESE ARE THE THINGS I AM PERSUADED OF:

1. THAT GOD'S PEOPLE ARE GOOD PEOPLE.

Romans 15:14 And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.

2. THAT GOD'S PEOPLE WANT TO LIVE HOLY.

Hebrews 6:9 But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak.

3. THAT THE CHURCH IS GOING TO PREVAIL.

2 Timothy 1:5 When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.

4. THAT NOTHING IS WORTH DISUNITY.

Romans 14:5 One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.

5. THAT MY SINS ARE COMPLETELY FORGIVEN.

2 Timothy 1:12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

6. THAT I CAN SURVIVE ANY TRIAL.

Romans 8:38-39 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

7. THAT HEAVEN IS WORTH EVERYTHING.

Hebrews 11:13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

Did you notice anything about the list we just made? Everything single thing on it is IMPOSSIBLE unless God performs it! You cannot "perform" well enough to be good, to live holy, to prevail, to live in unity, to deserve forgiveness, to survive trials, and to get to Heaven.

BUT WHAT GOD HAS PROMISED, HE IS ABLE TO PERFORM!