

# Sermon Notes

## A Royal, International Family of Faith

Genesis 17

*Intro: Do we really need to talk about circumcision!?*

- *Embarrassing? Archaic? Irrelevant?*

### 1. God's promises are even bigger than you think... (1-8)

- *Personal Relationship* with God: 7
- *People*: 3-6, 16
- *Place*: 8
- *Plan for globe*: 4, 16

### 2. But are limited to children of Abraham who "Keep covenant" (9-14)

- Those physically born of Abram? No, not just them (12-13)
- Those physically circumcised? No, not all of them (20-21)
- Who, then, is 'righteous' and offspring of Ab? (15:6)

**i.e. those of faith** (Romans 4:11-12, 16-17)

### 3. If it's really just about faith, why have circumcision at all? (9, 14)

- An expression of faith, walking by what God says (then) 17:1, 9-11
- A sign of the covenant (no coincidence where it is - offspring!!) 11
- A pointer to bigger "circumcision" to come – flesh cut off in Christ
  - o Colossians 2:11-12, Romans 2:27-29, Philippians 3:3

*Conclusion: So how do we benefit from Ab's promises today? Come to the Christ who "circumcises" us fully at the cross and by his Spirit*