

FAITHFUL ONE

ABRAHAM'S COVENANT OF FRAGILE FAITH

Part 2: Love is Patient

APPETIZER: Review – You Know More Than Abraham

I would obey like Abraham if:

- a) God spoke to me.
 - b) God appeared to me.
 - c) God made clear what I am supposed to do.
-
- a) HE HAS!
(Matthew 19:5; Luke 24:27; Romans 3:2; 2 Timothy 3:16-17)
 - b) HE HAS!
(John 1:18; 14:9; Colossians 1:15; Hebrews 1:3)
 - c) HE HAS!
(Matthew 7:12; 11:28-30; 28:18-20; Luke 6:37-38; John 13:34; Acts 16:31; Romans 8:29; 2 Corinthians 9:7; Galatians 5:13-26; 6:2; Ephesians 4:22-32; 6:10-18; Philippians 2:1-18; Colossians 3:8-17; Hebrews 10:24-25; 1 Peter 2:5, 9; 2 Peter 1:5-9)

Many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.

~ Jesus, Matthew 13:16-17

DINE IN: Making Better Choices

Genesis 13

God's blessing is not always evidence of our faithfulness, but his.

1 Timothy 6:6-10

Genesis 3:6 VS Philippians 4:11-13

Matthew 5:9; Hebrews 12:14; Acts 1:6-8; 4:32-35

TAKE OUT: Results VS Relationship

All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised.
~ Hebrews 11:13

GOOD NEWS: You will likely not live to see the full extent of what God is doing through your life!

2 Peter 3:8-9; Matthew 7:12; Philippians 2:2-7; Galatians 6:2

But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.
~ The Apostle Peter, 2 Peter 3:8-9

HOMEWORK: Take time to "build altars" to God.

Hebrews 13:15-16

NEXT WEEK – We continue our series on Abraham.

Home Church Questions

HANGOUT [Warming Up to the Topic – in one Large Group]

1. Review this week's sermon. Talk about what most encouraged or perplexed you, what new things you learned or old things that were confirmed.

HEAR [Listening to God through Scripture – in Discussion Groups]

2. Read **Genesis 13**.
 - a. What verse or idea that stands out to you the most? Why?
 - b. Abraham grew rich because of his deceptive 'hustle'. Can you think of examples in the history of the Church (or your own life), where God used even our sin to bring about blessing? Talk about how Romans 8:28 applies.
 - c. Paul warned Timothy about the dangers of wanting riches in **1 Timothy 6:6-10**. Read this passage and talk about the many ways our culture works against us in this issue.
 - d. Abraham's way of handling his dispute with Lot was unselfish and faith-filled. Lot's decision was based on what looked best for him. Talk about a time you've been able to respond like Abraham and/or made the mistake of Lot.
 - e. The LORD promised Abraham offspring as numerous as the dust of the earth. Who is this promise referring to? Use Scripture to support your answer. (Hint: Romans 4 and Romans 9:6-8 and Galatians 3 are good places to look.)

HUDDLE [Making It Personal and Praying Together – in Huddles]

3. Use your Huddle Questions and pay special attention to this one...

How have you handled your finances (shopping, saving, giving, investing) and your possessions (using, sharing, loaning, giving away) in ways that reflect the priorities of the Kingdom of Christ?

August 20, 2017 // @bruxy

Quotes

Welcome to part 2 of our series about the faith of Abraham and the faithfulness of God.

Last week we learned about when God first called Abraham (then called Abram), and about Abraham's faith, and fear, and failure.

Now, in Genesis chapter 13, we read about Abraham and his nephew Lot, their turmoil and separation, and about God's renewed promise to Abraham...

So Abram went up from Egypt to the Negev, with his wife and everything he had, and Lot went with him. Abram had become very wealthy in livestock and in silver and gold.

Now Lot, who was moving about with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents. But the land could not support them while they stayed together, for their possessions were so great that they were not able to stay together.

And quarreling arose between Abram's herders and Lot's.

So Abram said to Lot, "Let's not have any quarreling between you and me, or between your herders and mine, for we are close relatives. Is not the whole land before you? Let's part company. If you go to the left, I'll go to the right; if you go to the right, I'll go to the left."

Lot looked around and saw that the whole plain of the Jordan toward Zoar was well watered, like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt. (This was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.)

So Lot chose for himself the whole plain of the Jordan and set out toward the east. The two men parted company: Abram lived in the land of Canaan, while Lot lived among the cities of the plain and pitched his tents near Sodom.

The LORD said to Abram after Lot had parted from him, "Look around from where you are, to the north and south, to the east and west. All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever.

"I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust, then your offspring could be counted. Go, walk through the length and breadth of the land, for I am giving it to you."

So Abram went to live near the great trees of Mamre at Hebron, where he pitched his tents. There he built an altar to the LORD.