Today's Message Outline

Giving it Away

The Life of Abraham Genesis 13:1-18 Sunday, October 18, 2009

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In this episode of Abram's journey of faith, we learn 5 vital things about real faith relationship with the Lord God. . . .

I. Faith _____

Abram turns around and returns to the Lord after his faith failure.

V. Faith _____

Abram's faith is expressed and encouraged by worship.

II. Faith _____

Abram sacrifices personal prosperity for the sake of family peace.

III. Faith _____

Abram places his case, his cause and his future in the Lord's hands.

IV. Faith _____.

The Lord rewards Abram's generous, risking faith.

THINK IT OVER !

WORK IT OUT!

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- 1. Read Genesis 13:1-18 again. Summarize, in your own words, what happens here. How does this contrast with what happens in the episode just before this one? What do we learn about the journey of faith?
- 2. Who is Lot? What is the problem presented in this text? What is extraordinary about the way that Abram seeks to address this problem?

3. How does Lot seek to disadvantage Abram in order to advantage himself? What are the clues in the text? Who is Lot revealed to be?

4. Why was Abram's faith risky? Did he know what God would do when he "gave it away" to Lot?

5. How is this episode "framed" by 13:3 and 13:18? What's the point?

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- 1. What was new and most challenging for you in this week's text/message?
- 2. What challenge are you facing in life right now? What would it practically look like to tackle that problem/challenge by faith?
- 3. What are some of the things that can keep us from repenting and returning to the Lord after our faith fails?
- 4. Why are "faith people" also to be "peace-seeking people"? What's the connection between faith and peace? How in the world can we possibly give up our own rights and "prosperity" for the sake of peace? Where in your life do you need to wage peace?
- 5. Why does faith risk? Share a place where your faith is being challenged to risk.
- 6. Does God always reward faith? Does he always reward faith in the same way He rewarded Abram's faith? What other ways might He reward our faith?
- 7. How can a consistent pattern and rhythm of worship both express and support our faith?