

Today's Message Outline

Faith Risks

The Life of Abraham

Genesis 13:1-18

Sunday, October 25, 2009

IV. Faith _____.

The Lord rewards Abram's generous, risking faith.

V. Faith _____

Abram's faith is expressed and encouraged by worship.

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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 REPENTS

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

II. Faith WAGES PEACE

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.

THINK IT OVER !

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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. How did the Lord, by grace, act on Abram's behalf at the end of chapter 12? How is God's grace related to Abram's expression of faith in chapter 13?
3. Why was Abram's faith risky? Did he know what God would do when he "gave it away" to Lot?
4. Read Hebrews 11:6. What does this verse say and how does this episode in Abram's journey of faith illustrate the principle?
5. How is this episode "framed" by 13:3 and 13:18? What's the point?

WORK IT OUT!

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1. What was new and/or most challenging for you in this week's text/message?
2. Why does faith risk? Where is a place where you are currently risking or ready to take a risky step in your faith? (Could be anything!) What do you feel when you think about taking faith risks?
3. 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?
4. How can a consistent pattern and rhythm of worship both express and encourage our faith? Do you think about worship like this?
5. Worship is tough. When you come to church on Sunday, describe your experience. What happens for you? What do you think? What do you feel? Do you feel like a worshipper or like a viewer? What can you do to change that? What can the leadership do to change that?
6. What are the cultural things that can distract us from a consistent rhythm of worship? Why don't we make worship and gathering with God's people a priority in our lives? How can we swim against the cultural "current" in this area?