

Talking to God (Genesis 18)

Abraham: Hearing God's Call – Part 7

Life Church St. Louis – August 12, 2018

Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Message Videos – www.lcstl.org/messages

James 2:23 (ESV) and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness"—and he was called a friend of God.

John 15:14-15 (ESV) You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.

1. God wants to fulfill His _____ for you

Genesis 18:9-10a (ESV) They said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?" And he said, "She is in the tent." The LORD said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son."

1A. Don't _____ God's words

Genesis 18:10b-12 (ESV) And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years. The way of women had ceased to be with Sarah. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I am worn out, and my lord is old, shall I have pleasure?"

1B. _____ is too hard for God

Genesis 18:13-14 (ESV) The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son."

2. God wants to share His _____ with you

Genesis 18:16-17 (ESV) Then the men set out from there, and they looked down toward Sodom. And Abraham went with them to set them on their way. The LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do,

2A. Instruct your _____ in His ways

Genesis 18:19 (ESV) For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what he has promised him."

2B. Let God's revelation direct your _____

Genesis 18:20-21 (ESV) Then the LORD said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know."

3. _____ for those facing judgement

Genesis 18:22-24 (ESV) So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD. Then Abraham drew near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it?"

3A. God will _____ your prayers

Genesis 18:26 (ESV) And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake."

3B. Be _____ in your prayer

Genesis 18:32 (ESV) Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

Action Plan for This Week

Have a daily quiet time of Bible reading & prayer.
 Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun

Invite a friend for our series **Abraham: Hearing God's Call** next Sunday.

How will I obey God's Word this week? _____

Talking to God (Genesis 18) Study Guide

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Intro. What does it mean that Abraham was called a friend of God (James 2:23)?

What distinction does Jesus make between servants and friends (John 15:14-15)? Why is this important?

How does a believer's prayer life reflect their friendship with God?

What lessons can we learn through Abraham's welcoming of the Lord and the two angels to his home (Genesis 18:3-5, Revelation 3:20)?

1A. What was the purpose of the Lord's message given concerning Sarah (Genesis 18:9-10a)?

1B. Why did Sarah laugh at the Lord's message concerning a son (Genesis 18:10b-12)?

1C. How did the Lord respond to Sarah's laughter (Genesis 18:13-14)? What impact did this visit have on Sarah (Hebrews 11:11)?

1D. What can we learn from this story that will help us overcome our doubts and strengthen our faith in God's promises?

2A. Why does God share His secrets with believers who walk with Him (Genesis 18:16-17, Amos 3:7)?

2B. Why was it so important for Abraham to teach his children God's ways (Genesis 18:19)?

2C. How did Abraham draw the conclusion from Genesis 18:20-21 that the Lord was about to destroy Sodom?

2D. Explain how God shares his secrets with believers today through spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12:8-10).

3A. On what grounds did Abraham intercede for the rescue of the righteous in Sodom (Genesis 18:22-25)?

3B. What do God's responses to Abraham's intercession tell us about the impact of righteous people in a city or nation (Genesis 18:26)?

3C. What does Abraham's extended intercession tell us about prayer (Genesis 18:27-32)?