

Share prayer requests with the small group. Ask someone to take notes and share the requests with group members after the meeting.

Sermon Study

June 25, 2017

Salvation Promise #4 (Abraham - part two)

Genesis 15:1-21

vision

Eastview
Christian
Church is a
fearless church
of Christ
followers whose
ridiculous love
and dangerous
witness are
irresistible.



Author's Note:

The covenant God made with Abram is significant not only for His time and for ours. As you go through this study, be sure to draw the parallels with Jesus' New Testament covenant with those dedicated to following Him. I highly encourage you to make it to question #5. If necessary, you can choose to skip questions #3 or #4.

Gather (your group getting to know each other)

See if you can finish these childhood covenants:

Cross my heart hope _____

Pinky _____

Can you think of others?

Go
(your group on mission)

Has your faith been off at all recently? How has God taken your hand and reminded you of His promises?

Who do you need to walk beside this week to tell or remind of God's promises?

Grow (your group growing as Christ-followers)

1. Read Genesis 15 and have someone open in prayer.

2. Seven different times in this passage the Word of the Lord came to Abram. Would you listen? Oh, to have the word of the Lord speak to me and that I would listen!

a. Read Gen. 15:1 and Dt. 33:29. What is your response here to the Word of the Lord?

b. Read vs. 2-6. What promise is God making?

c. How did Abram react? How did God respond?

3. Righteousness is having right relationship with God. Read Romans 4 as a group.

a. What promise did Abram and his offspring receive?

b. How did this promise come?

c. Who also were the words "it was credited to him" written for?

d. Why is this so important?

4. Read Galatians 3 as a group. What does this passage say about salvation by promise and believing in Christ?

5. Read Gen. 15:7-18 again. Abram needed to know that God would keep His promise and God by His grace confirmed His promise by a covenant.

a. Do you make promises with others? Do you confirm your promises with a signature, hand shake, your "word" or something else?

b. Verses 10-17 discuss a dramatic sacrificial ritual. God's promise confirms to make Abrams' descendants as numerous as the stars in the heaven. Picture the animals cut in half. Both people in a promise would walk through the animal halves binding the promise. This is a cutting right, a contract. It takes two. However, notice in vs. 17 of this promise God passes through the pieces without Abram. God is making this promise alone. It can't be broken. How does this Old Testament image portray itself in the New Testament?

c. What is God's invitation here for you? What is your response?

d. How is this sacrifice different than Noah's sacrifice?

Give
(your group serving each other)

Does your small group have any covenants? Reflect on the impact these have made in your life or the groups growth. If not, this would be a good time to consider one for the group.