

WHO AM I?



Child of Adam, Child of Abraham

**The 2015 City
Weekend**

Session One: Genesis 15:1 – 21 - A Spiritual Work

Introduction

The First Book of the Bible – 2:4; 5:1; 6:9; 10:1; 11:10; 11:27; 25:19; 36:1; 37:2

1. Abram, a man of privilege

'Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great'

Genesis 2:4 – 4:26 *'Generations of the heavens and the earth'*

Genesis 5:1 – 6:8 *'Generations of Adam'*

Genesis 6:9 – 9:29 *'Generations of Noah'*

Genesis 10:1 – 11:10 *'Generations of the sons of Noah'*

Genesis 11:1 – 26 *'Generations of Shem'*

Genesis 11:27 – 25:18 *'Generations of Terah'*

2. Abram, a man with connections

'So shall your offspring be'

3. Abram, a man with a future

Jer 34:18 – As for the man who transgressed my covenant, I will make him like the calf that they cut in two and passed between its pieces.

Conclusion - just two families!

Put into your own words the privilege Abram is promised in verse 1

How does the promise of verse 4 – 5 indicate the significance of who we are as Christians?

How does verse 6 encourage you?

In verse 12 – 16 God promises Abram a certain future. How does the promise of a New Creation encourage you?

How does verse 17 (with Abram asleep) encourage you?

Taken together how do these foundational promises expand our understanding of the significance of what God is doing and what we are involved with as Christians?

Spend some time thanking God for what we have learned.

Session Two: Genesis 18:16 – 19:29 - A Salvation Work

Four individuals:

Lot's sons – laughed (19:14)

Lot – lingered (19:16)

Lot's wife – looked back (19:26)

Abraham

God will justly judge the wicked

God will mercifully rescue the righteous

So what?

Four individuals:

Lot's sons-in-law: *'his sons-in-law thought he was jesting' (19:14)*

Lot: *'he lingered' (19:16)*

Lot's wife: *'but Lot's wife looked back' (19:26)*

Abraham: *'but Abraham remained standing before the Lord' (18:22)*

'for I have chosen him that he will direct his children and household to keep the way of the Lord by doing what is right and just' (18:19)

How does this passage show the justice of God?

How does this passage show the mercy of God?

How does this passage shape your understanding of God's work on this earth?

Take each of the characters in turn (Lot's sons-in-law; Lot himself; Lot's wife; Abraham) what are the key applications of each for you?

... THROUGH IMPOSSIBLE MEANS

One word – 'no'!

Not through 'possible' human means

One sentence – "is anything too hard for God?"

Luke 1:37 *For nothing is impossible with God*

Luke 18:27 *'What is impossible with man is possible with God'*

RESPONSES

Humility / delight

Fury / derision

How does chapter 17 verse 1 – 8 expand on what we learned so far about what God is doing?

How do these verses change your sense of identity as a Christian?

Why should the 'divine negative' of verse 19 produce humility?

Why does it produce hostility from others (especially the religious)?

Why should the 'divine question' of verse 14 produce delight for Sarah, and all Christians?

Why does it produce derision from others (especially the religious)?

How is it that the derision and hostility might cause us deny our identity?

How is it that the humility and delight protect us?

Session Four: Genesis 22 - A Sacrificial Work

Introduction

Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I will tell you about

1. Is God Good?

2. Is God able?

(Hebrews 11:19)

Consecration of the first born (Exodus 13)

Setting apart of Levites (Numbers 8:14)

The Cross

3. Am I willing?

What makes you doubt God's goodness?

How does this passage (and particularly its fulfilment in the cross) help to demonstrate that God is good?

How does this truth about God's provision of a sacrifice challenge many peoples' views of God?

What makes you doubt God's ability to raise up children for Abraham?

How does this passage (and particularly its fulfilment in the cross and resurrection) help to demonstrate that God is able to raise up a family from Abraham?

In what particular areas does Abraham's willingness challenge you?

How does God's goodness, and God's ability provide you with incentive to be willing?

How does God's promise in verse 15 – 18 provide further incentive?