

Small Group notes – 8 October 2017

Welcome

What is the most generous act someone has ever done for you?

Worship

Share bread & wine together. Give thanks for the Lord's sacrifice.

Word - The generosity of Abraham – '*a big hearted spirit*' - Genesis 13-14

The generosity of Abram is displayed in a number of ways:

- In the midst of conflict – 13 v 5-7. He is generous in his grace and peace making.
- In the midst of choices – 13 v8-13. He offers Lot first choice on the Land.
- In the midst of captivity – 14 v 1-14. He is willing to sacrifice his own needs, comfort and possibly even life to help out his Nephew.
- In the midst of celebration – 14 v 16-24. He shares the glory of his victory with the men who stood alongside him. He gives a tenth to Melchizedek.

God is looking for generous, big-hearted men & women who will follow him.

In this new season will this be us? People who 'love God and live generously'.

Questions

- What indications of Abram's spiritual health do you see in Gen 13: 3-4?
- Why is Abram's response to the conflict with his nephew Lot unusual? 13 v 5-13.
- What did Abram do that was different from Lot when he entered into the land? 13:18.
- In what ways did Abram display incredible generosity on hearing the news about Lot?
- Who is this mysterious Melchizedek? Read Psalm 110 & Hebrews 7:1-3
- Why did Abram not keep the spoils of war and refuse the offer from the King of Sodom? Gen 14:21.
- Compare the two kings. Bera, King of Sodom & Melchizedek King of Salem 14:21-24
- How do you know if your generous and big hearted?
- How do you respond in times of conflict?
- How can we know when it is best to demand and even fight for our rights versus letting go and trusting God to provide for us?
- Who are the 'others' in your life and how can you put them first?
- What have you learnt so far from looking at Abram's life at this stage of his Journey that has been helpful?

Prayers & reminders

- Monday 9 Oct – Lunch Plus. Please pray for the guests who attend and for Roger and the team. Jane Ford setting up and Arthur and the kitchen team.
- Monday 9 Oct – Alpha. We have around 20 people attending. Please pray for the guests, leaders and for Stan & the kitchen team.
- Wed 11 Oct – Roger Pearce is having a hip replacement. Please pray for peace for him and Frances and for a swift recovery.