LESSON - The Prayer Of Abraham

WORSHIP (15 MINUTES)

Play worship music to create an atmosphere of worship and help everyone prepare their hearts. If the venue is public, invite everyone to share the highs and lows of their week to build connection and fellowship.

WELCOME (10 MINUTES)

Welcome guests and first-time visitors warmly. Start with a simple icebreaker question to help everyone get acquainted, create a comfortable atmosphere, and encourage guests to feel included.

ICEBREAKER QUESTION

Q: Have you ever had a conversation with someone in a position of great authority or influence? (ex. Politician, Company CEO, a famous celebrity. Would you share your experience?

WORD (30-45 MINUTES)

Main Text: Read **Genesis18: 16-33 NLT**

Genesis 18 opens with the Lord and two angels visiting Abraham. They announced that Sarah, his wife, would finally give birth to a son within twelve months, after many years of waiting. The chapter then shifts to another place: Sodom. As part of Abraham's hospitality, he walked with his guests to send them on their way. But something interesting happened in verses 17–19. God considered revealing His plan concerning Sodom to Abraham. Why?

1. Abraham as a friend of God - v.17

God called Abraham His friend because Abraham trusted and obeyed Him. God chose Abraham to become the father of a great nation and to be a blessing to the world. Because of this special relationship, God shared His plans with Abraham.

Q: How can we determine the level of friendship or closeness we have with God?

2. God heard the cries of Sodom. - v.20

God heard the cries of those who were suffering and acted against the wickedness. God sees injustice, hears the cries of the oppressed, and cares about how people treat others.

3. God demonstrated that His judgment is fair. - v.21

Like a careful and wise judge, God never judges hastily or unfairly. His justice is perfect, righteous, and trustworthy.

How did God involve Abraham to be an intercessor?

1. God invited Abraham - Genesis 18:22

By revealing His plans, God was inviting Abraham to participate through prayer. Rather than simply informing him of what would happen, God gave Abraham an opportunity to intercede for the people of Sodom.

2. Abraham Acted as a Priest

In the OT, a priest stood before God on behalf of others. Abraham demonstrated this role by praying for the people of Sodom. Instead of thinking only about himself, he pleaded with God for mercy on behalf of others.

Q: In what practical ways can we follow Abraham's example and stand in prayer for our family, community, or those who are far from God?

Notice several things about Abraham's intercession:

1. Abraham's selfless prayer– Abraham's nephew, Lot, lived in Although Abraham was concerned for his nephew Lot and his family, he did not pray only for them. He asked God to spare the entire city of Sodom, showing concern for everyone who lived there.

Q: When you pray, do your prayers focus mainly on yourself and those close to you, or do you also intercede for others who need God's mercy?

2. Abraham's prayer was based on his knowledge of God's character. - Abraham prayed with confidence because he knew who God is. He trusted that God is perfectly just, always does what is right, and delights in showing mercy.

Q: How confident are you when we come to God in prayer? Do you always have the assurance that He will answer your prayers?

3. Abraham's prayer was selfless. - Rather than asking only for Lot's rescue, Abraham pleaded for the whole community. His heart reflected God's compassion for people, even those living in a wicked city.

4. Abraham's humility in praying - Abraham understood that standing before God was a privilege, not a right. Even while boldly interceding, he remained humble, acknowledging that he was "but dust and ashes" before a holy God (Genesis 18:27).

5. Abraham Prayed with Boldness and Respect - Abraham approached God with both courage and humility. He kept asking if God would spare the city for fewer and fewer righteous people, starting with fifty and ending with ten. Like a person negotiating in a marketplace, Abraham persistently appealed for mercy, and God patiently listened each time.

Q: Why Do you think Abraham Stop praying at 1en righteous?

Our Calling as Friends and Priests of God

Jesus calls His followers friends because He has revealed the Father's heart and plans to them (John 15:15). God wants everyone to repent and receive His love and salvation through Christ. He shares His heart with us because He wants us to participate in His mission.

God Is Inviting Us to Intercede for Others

Just as Abraham interceded for Sodom, God calls us to pray for those around us. Many people today are struggling with broken families, addiction, depression, violence, and spiritual darkness. Others still do not know Christ. These people need someone to stand in the gap and pray for them.

Q: Who has God placed in your life that may need your prayers and spiritual support right now?

Conclusion: We must learn to persist in prayer, just as Abraham did. Remember how Abraham kept coming back to God? Fifty, forty-five, forty, thirty, twenty, and finally ten! Let us take comfort in this truth: **God is never annoyed by our persistence. He is listening, He is ready, and He is waiting to move.**

WORK (15 MINUTES)

Application

1. Find a partner. Ask what you can pray for him/her then pray for each other.
2. Pray and prepare a Hit List (max. of 5-10 names of family, relatives, friends, schoolmates, workmates, neighbors, etc.) of possible people you desire to invite in the next life group gathering.

What is your take-away from this lesson? Closing Prayer