

# **Faith Fosters Prayer**

Abraham: A Daring Faith - Part 6 June 10 & 11, 2017 Dr. Rex Keener. Senior Pastor

Big Idea: The fervent and genuine prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Text: Genesis 18:1-15

## I. EFFECTIVE PRAYER BEGINS WITH A \_\_\_\_\_\_

And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called God's friend. - James 2:23

The LORD appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground. – Genesis 18:1-2

He said, "If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, do not pass your servant by." - Genesis 18:3

He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree. - Genesis 18:8

Then the LORD said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son." - Genesis 18:10a

Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him. Abraham and Sarah were already old and well advanced in years, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing.

- Genesis 18:10b-11

So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, "After I am worn out and my master is old, will I now have this pleasure?" - Genesis 18:12

Then the LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really have a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too hard for the LORD? I will return to you at the appointed time next year and Sarah will have a son." Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, "I did not laugh." But he said, "Yes, you did laugh." – Genesis 18:13-15

When the men got up to leave, they looked down toward Sodom, and Abraham walked along with them to see them on their way. - Genesis 18:16

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. - Philippians 4:6-7

#### II. EFFECTIVE PRAYER EMPHASIZES

Then Abraham approached him and said: "Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked? What if there are fifty righteous people in the city? Will you really sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous people in it?" - Genesis 18:23-24

Then Abraham spoke up again: "Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, though I am nothing but dust and ashes, what if the number of the righteous is five less than fifty? Will you destroy the whole city because of five people?" "If I find forty-five there," he said, "I will not destroy it." – Genesis 18:27-28

Then he said, "May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak just once more. What if only ten can be found there?" He answered, "For the sake of ten, I will not destroy it." - Genesis 18:32

When the LORD had finished speaking with Abraham, he left, and Abraham returned home.

- Genesis 18:33

Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died - more than that, who was raised to life - is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. - Romans 8:34

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. - Romans 8:26

God, whom I serve with my whole heart in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you in my prayers at all times. - Romans 1:9-10a

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. - James 5:16

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. - 1 Timothy 2:1-2

A. It was	
B. It was	
C. It was	
D. It was	

#### III. EFFECTIVE PRAYER PRODUCES \_\_\_\_\_\_

Before they had gone to bed, all the men from every part of the city of Sodom - both young and old - surrounded the house. They called to Lot, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we can have sex with them." - Genesis 19:4-5

"Get out of our way," they replied. And they said, "This fellow came here as an alien, and now he wants to play the judge! We'll treat you worse than them." They kept bringing pressure on Lot and moved forward to break down the door. - Genesis 19:9

But the men inside reached out and pulled Lot back into the house and shut the door. Then they struck the men who were at the door of the house, young and old, with blindness so that they could not find the door. The two men said to Lot, "Do you have anyone else here—sons-in-law, sons or daughters, or anyone else in the city who belongs to you? Get them out of here, because we are going to destroy this place. The outcry to the LORD against its people is so great that he has sent us to destroy it." – Genesis 19:10-13

So Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law, who were pledged to marry his daughters. He said, "Hurry and get out of this place, because the LORD is about to destroy the city!" But his sons-in-law thought he was joking. – Genesis 19:14

Then the LORD rained down burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah—from the LORD out of the heavens. - Genesis 19:24

With the coming of dawn, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Hurry! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away when the city is punished." When he hesitated, the men grasped his hand and the hands of his wife and of his two daughters and led them safely out of the city, for the LORD was merciful to them. – Genesis 19:15-16

So when God destroyed the cities of the plain, he remembered Abraham, and he brought Lot out of the catastrophe that overthrew the cities where Lot had lived. - Genesis 19:29

### **MEMORY VERSES**

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7