

START HERE #21: GENESIS 18:16-33 "BLOW UP YOUR BOX"

CAST Ice skates/vhs tape/volleyball - 1. A knife.

ONE THING THIS YEAR CAN'T SURVIVE W/O - ??? u think? PRAYER - PRAYING C.

The church has the power to move heaven and earth. Not through its programs, pastors, or financial portfolio but through prayer. If you have prayer you have everything

Chapter contrasts: YOU'RE HAVING A BABY - I'M DESTROYING S&G

- SO THANKFUL ABRAHAM WASN'T LIKE AVERAGE CHRISTIAN

Too blessed to care about lost people going to hell. I'VE GOT MY PROMISE

MP: If you don't care about seeing unsaved people saved, then you probably don't know Jesus.

- Fascinating dialogue between god and abe - CHRISTOPHANY Sticksround

GOD WAS GETTING ABRAHAM IN SHAPE

Genesis 18:17-19 - GOD EXPLAINS HIS PURPOSE

- Not just about receiving promises and blessings - IT'S TRANSFORMATION

IN ORDER: raise his children to love God, live a life that pleases God in doing what's right and treating others right, and that the promises of God might be fulfilled life

SHAPED HIS HEART/PURPOSE: God taught Abraham righteousness - justice, mercy-intercession - NO ARGUMENT

When God shapes your heart, He shapes your purpose.

- MEMOR...: DECADENT - OTHER WICK CITIES CONSIDERED - BYWORD

Because the **outcry** against Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their **sin is very grave**

- o **Outcry: CAIN / ISRAELITES - SIN WAS GRAVE (provoked action)**

Ezekiel 16:49-50 Look, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom: She and her daughter had **pride, fullness of food, and abundance of idleness**; neither did she **strengthen the hand of the poor and needy**.⁵⁰ And they were haughty and **committed abomination** before Me; therefore I took them away as I saw fit.

Jude 1:7 As Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

- Spare the city for ur people Not easy to pray - **OFFENSIVE.....**

YOU HAVE JESUS - HIS LIFE, HIS CROSS

SHAPES OUR HEARTS/PURPOSE: What matters to Jesus matters to us - **LOVES PPLE**

- LOVE AND BURDEN FOR THE LOST

Luke 23:34 "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."

Praying doesn't change God's heart it gives us His heart.

WHAT IS GOD DOING? TEACHING HIS PEOPLE TO PRAY

1. HEAVEN FIRST THEN EARTH: ABRAHAM STOOD B4 THE LORD - CAME NEAR

Your kingdom come your will be done on earth as it is in heaven - REALITY IN HV 1st.

- Settled in the heart of God there's no stopping it.

Isaiah 34:16 “Search from the book of the LORD, and read: Not one of these shall fail..... For My mouth has commanded it.”

- Kay’s prayer for the lost. GREGG LAURIE – AWAKENING STARTS IN PRAYER
 - o **LUKE 10:2 - Time each day to pray – EPHESIANS 5:14**

Ephesians 5:14 Therefore He says: “Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light.” Awaken your church – open the eyes of the lost to Jesus your Son

2. ABSOLUTE CONFIDENCE BC OF WHO GOD IS

- Would you destroy the righteous with the wicked – **NO** – KNEW GOD
- WE PRAY - IN JESUS NAME

John 14:12 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do, because I go to My Father. ¹³ And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask anything in My name, I will do *it*.”

WHO HE IS – WHAT HE WANTS – FOR HIS GLORY – walk with him/memorize word

3. BE PUSHY BUT HUMBLE

- Don’t be passive in prayer – God’s looking for some **FIRE**
 - o Tenacious in his prayer – humble (**dust and ashes**)

James 5:16 The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. ¹⁸ And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.

4. BLOW UP YOUR BOX

Don’t be satisfied with your prayer experience.

- Pray for some crazy stuff – **HAVE AT LEAST ONE RADICAL REQUEST**