

Sermon Discussion – 6 August 2023

Read Genesis 20:1-18

Getting Started *Sharing from personal experience*

The sermon talks about recurring sins that hound us relentlessly, like a piece of furniture we keep hitting our toe against. When have you repeated the same mistake twice or more? How did it make you feel?

Share any personal stories of how you've experienced God's grace and forgiveness in your life, especially during times of recurring sin or struggle.

Observation *Discovering the context*

The story of Abraham and Abimelech shows that sin can be committed without knowing it and without sinful intentions.

- How can we practice self-awareness and accountability in recognising and dealing with sins we might be unaware of?
- How can we be more truthful and authentic in our relationships, even when it means facing vulnerability and potential challenges?

Interpretation *Discovering the meaning*

1. The story of Abraham in Genesis 20 shows his failure and unbelief, yet God remains faithful to him. How does this story illustrate the tension between God's grace and our responsibility to deal with sin in our lives?
2. The sermon emphasises the importance of avoiding situations that expose us to temptation. What are some practical steps you can take to avoid such situations and make wise choices in areas where you are vulnerable to sin?
3. The text highlights the significance of confessing our sins before God. Why is confession important in dealing with sin, even those we may not be fully aware of? How can we practice 1 John 1:9 in our daily lives?
4. Despite Abraham's sin, God used him to bring healing and blessings to others. How can this aspect of God's grace encourage us to keep pursuing holiness while acknowledging our weaknesses?

Application *Putting knowledge into practice*

- What recurring sins do you personally struggle with, and how do they affect your life and faith journey? Share any personal testimonies of how God's grace has transformed your life and empowered you to break free from recurring sins or destructive habits.
- Try memorising Genesis 20:6...
“Then God said to him in the dream, “Yes, I know that you have done this in the integrity of your heart, and it was I who kept you from sinning against me.”
- How has God blessed you and answered prayer this week?