

The Godly Man as Christ's Representative *A Biblical Example - Abraham*

Today we have the privilege of looking through a window and observing one of the great men of the Bible. Although Abraham was far from perfect, his heart toward God and his morality made him stand head and shoulders above the other men of his time. We should be able to easily identify with Abraham's fears, doubts, weaknesses, failures, and faith.

I trust, Teacher, that you will pray earnestly that God will allow you by the Holy Spirit's power to bring the men in your class to a very personal application from the study of this great man.

A. Object Of The Lesson

That the men would:

1. See that God chooses men and uses men even though they may not be perfect.
2. See that absolute obedience to God is always best for us.
3. See that God is capable of fulfilling His every promise.

B. Discussion Questions

1. Picture yourself as one of the inhabitants of the city when Abraham got ready to leave without having a set destination. How would you describe Abraham?
2. Why do you think God wanted Abraham to leave his country and family?
3. Why did God choose Abraham to be the father of His chosen people?
4. Why did Abraham go into Hagar? 5. What were the results?
6. What do we learn about Abraham's character from the way he met the challenge of trouble between his servants and Lot's?
7. Why do you feel Abraham pled for Sodom?
8. Why do you think he paid a tithe to Melchizedek?
9. Why do you think God asked Abraham to sacrifice Isaac?
10. Why did Abraham not tell anyone about the command of God?
11. If Abraham had been a religious fanatic, what do you think would have happened to Isaac?
12. What would you say is the leading lesson taught by his life?

13. What key insight about God did you discover while studying the life of Abraham?

14. What new insight about yourself did you discover through this study?

C. Suggestions For Conclusion

1. Have them share their applications, Question 9 - *Abraham*. Be especially alert to any vague generalizations. If one is vague or general in his application, ask the others to give him suggestions as to how he might personalize it. (Sometimes a person will say "I was impressed with this verse (or quality) but I just can't think of any way to apply it.") Go back over the detailed explanation on page 30 of the Godly Man. The application is the most important part of the study. So, week after week, be sure you keep very alert to the needs in this area.

2. Ask each man to share the trait they saw in Abraham which they would most like to see in their own life. Ask each one to pray for this quality in his life as you have a time of prayer together.

D. Additional Scripture

Hebrews 11:8-19; II Corinthians 10:17 (LB); II Corinthians 8:2; Ephesians 4:25 (Phillips); I Kings 11:3,4; Hebrews 12:14; Jeremiah 45:5; Acts 3:19 (RSV); Ecclesiastes 5:4,5; Romans 12:13; Titus 1:7 (Phillips); II Corinthians 6:3 (Living); Matthew 7:9,10; I Timothy 5:8

E. Possible Projects

1. Choose one or two positive characteristics of Abraham that you desire in your own life? Using a concordance or a topical textbook (like Nave's Topical Bible) find verses on these characteristics. Answer:

- a. Is this characteristic important to God?
- b. Should it be important to me?
- c. What can I do to make it part of my life?

F. Extra Helps

Latent Power of God by *Carothers*

Screwtape Letters by *C. S. Lewis*

Audio BSU 2116 - "The Life and Faith of Abraham" #1

The Liberty of Obedience, *Elizabeth Elliott*

The Disciplines of Life, *W. Raymond Edman*

A Serious Call to a Devout, Holy Life by *William Law*

Calvary Road by *Roy Hession*

We Would See Jesus by *Roy Hession*

Abraham, the Obedience of Faith by *F. B. Myer*

The Law of Faith, *Norman Grubb*