

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE
GENESIS 20 • FEBRUARY 28, 2021

The
PATRIARCHS
ABRAHAM

THE FATHER OF THE FAITHFUL BATTLES FAITHLESS SCHEMING

WARM UP

When have you repeated the same mistake twice or more? How did it make you feel?

READ GENESIS 20 AND FROM THE TEXT ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

- 1. What was the stated reason for Abraham and Sarah's faithless scheming?** They seem to have asked, "What could this do to US?" What did they not ask? Where did their assessment of Gerar come from? Investigation - Consulting God - Internal fear - Past experience
- 2. Was their assessment right?** On this occasion who feared God more our couple or pagan Abimelech? Who is blame-shifting and spinning his answer? Who honored Sarah more Abimelech or Abraham? Explain. Who has been Abimelech in your life? Why are believers not automatically the good guys? What should we take to heart here?

We are saved from the mastery of sin but not from its presence or influence.
BRAD BELL
- 3. How do you feel about God's prophet speaking to deceive and what appears to be the chronic weakness of God's chosen material?** Why is this chapter here? Where is the Lord in all this? In what way does the beautiful outcome of their lives actually magnify God and give you hope? Did God get a real bargain when He got you? Where do you most identify with Abraham and Sarah?
- 4. Where are you most vulnerable - most tempted to lie or go to your default flaws under pressure?** Abraham and Sarah seem to be most vulnerable after a success. See 12:10ff, 16:1ff, 20:1ff. Why might that be? How does acknowledging our habitual weakness prepare us for facing our trials with faith?

THE PROCESS - FROM STUMBLING BLOCK TO A SOLID USEFUL ROCK

"Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas" (A Rock) ...
"Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift all of you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers." Jn 1:42, Lk 22:31-32

CONCLUDING CHALLENGE

Share with the group where you need to apply this chapter right now and pray for one another