

GENESIS 14





Small Group Guide: God's Mission and Our Response

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Opening Prayer



The opening prayer is a way for us to invite God into our time together, center our hearts on Him, and prepare ourselves for the discussions ahead. This is an opportunity to thank God for His presence, ask for His guidance and wisdom, and open our hearts to what He wants to teach us.

Feel free to keep your prayer simple and conversational, as if you're talking directly to a close friend. If you're unsure what to say, focus on gratitude, ask for clarity and connection, and trust that God hears your heart.

Helpful Prayer Prompt:

- Thank God for bringing the group together and the opportunity to grow in faith.
- Invite the Holy Spirit to lead and guide your conversations.
- Ask for open hearts, wisdom, and encouragement for each person in the group.

Scripture Reading

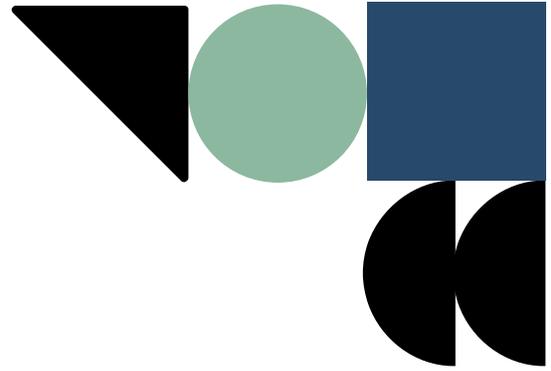


Genesis 14

In Genesis 14, we encounter a powerful narrative of faith, love, and divine purpose through Abraham's rescue of his nephew Lot. This story reminds us that life is often full of turmoil, but it's in these challenging moments that our faith is tested and strengthened. Abraham's actions demonstrate how loving God first enables us to love others more deeply and sacrificially.

We're challenged to consider: Who in our lives needs us to 'fight' for them? How can we, like Abraham, roll up our sleeves and take action when those around us are in need? This passage encourages us to view life's difficulties not as obstacles, but as opportunities to glorify God and grow in our faith. It's a call to shift our perspective from 'Why is this happening to me?' to 'How can I use this situation to honor God and help others?'





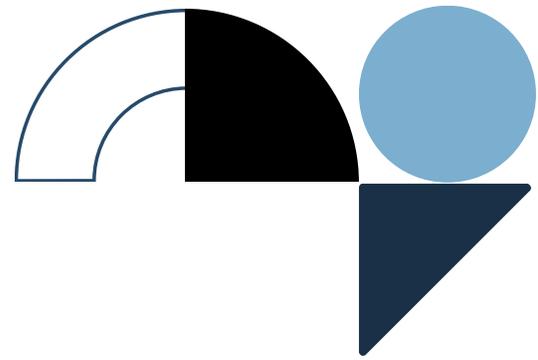
Key Takeaways

Abram practiced his faith in God by trusting Him through obedience.

Life is full of turmoil, but we can choose to glorify God in difficult situations.

Love for God should fuel our love for others and motivate us to action.

We should support and invest in God's mission wherever we see it at work.



Discussion Questions

1. The sermon mentions that "life is full of turmoil." Can you share a recent experience of turmoil in your life? How did you respond to it?
2. Abram chose to rescue Lot out of love for God and his nephew. Have you ever been called to help someone in a difficult situation? How did your faith influence your decision?
3. How can we shift our perspective from asking "Why is this happening to me?" to "How can I glorify God in this situation?"
4. The sermon talks about Abram meeting Melchizedek. How does this encounter point us to Jesus? What can we learn from Abram's response to Melchizedek?
5. Abram tithed to Melchizedek as a way of supporting God's mission. In what ways are you currently investing in God's mission? Are there new ways you feel called to contribute?
6. The pastor encourages us to "learn to thrive in turmoil." What practical steps can we take to grow spiritually during challenging times?





Practical Applications

1. This week, when you face a difficult situation, practice reframing it by asking, "How can I glorify God in this?"
2. Identify someone in your life who might need you to "fight for them" spiritually. Commit to praying for them daily and look for ways to practically support them.
3. Evaluate your current involvement in God's mission. Is there a new ministry or mission opportunity you feel led to explore or support?
4. Create a "spiritual growth plan" for times of turmoil. Include specific actions like increased Bible study, prayer, or seeking support from fellow believers.
5. Reflect on how you're loving your neighbors. Choose one practical way to show Christ-like love to someone in your community this week.



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Closing Prayer

Lord, help us to practice our faith by trusting and obeying You, even in times of turmoil. Give us the strength to love others as You love us, and show us how we can participate in Your mission. May our lives bring glory to Your name in all circumstances. Amen.