



God's Faithfulness *amidst* Man's Failure

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO GENESIS

Sunday, January 10, 2021

Welcome

We are so glad you have joined us to worship God this morning! Our church is inspired and motivated by the generous grace our Heavenly Father displayed in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In response to His goodness, we strive to live out compassionate love for those around us as we live and speak the good news about Jesus. We hope you leave encouraged and inspired to respond to God's invitation for relationship and His call to go and make disciples of Jesus who will then make more and more disciples of Jesus.

INTRODUCTION TO OUR SERMON SERIES

"There is no way God is pleased with my life." "I am so inconsistent with my faithfulness to God; I'm sure He gave up on me a long time ago."

Maybe you have had these thoughts in the past. Maybe you have them right now. If God's faithfulness to us is dependent on our faithfulness to Him, then maybe these thoughts would have some merit. But what if God is compelled not by the quality of our faithfulness but by the quality of *His* faithfulness?

As we work through the second half of Genesis together, we will encounter God's followers consistently failing to be faithful to God. But amidst the failures of man, we will also encounter the continual faithfulness of God as He demonstrates steadfast love and faithfulness to the very end.

Pastor Austin Branson
Lead Pastor

gracechurch
An Evangelical Free Church

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WORSHIP SERVICE: SUNDAYS AT 10AM

PRELUDE
Be Thou My Vision (Open Eyes)

CALL TO WORSHIP
 Psalm 86:8-13

WORSHIP IN SONG
Great Are You, Lord
O Come to the Altar
Build My Life

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

GOSPEL PROJECT VIDEO LESSON

SERMON

BENEDICTION & DISMISSAL

Connection Cards

Are you new to Grace? Do you have a prayer request? We invite you to fill out a Connection Card found at the Welcome Center or online.

Tithe Online

To give electronically, you can visit the "Give" page of our website -or- download the "Give Plus" app found in your phone's app store.

Weekly Email

If you would like to receive a weekly email that include reminders and updates, please visit our website, and subscribe under the "Helpful Links" section.

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Tuesday, January 12

Women's Bible Study (meeting virtually via Zoom).....10:00am, 7:00pm
 Contact: Marj DeVore, (262) 275-9426

Sunday, January 17

Worship Service 10:00am
 Iglesia Jesucristo es mi Refugio 12:00pm
 Contact: Pastores Ricardo y Berna Ramos, (815) 355-7482

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Women's Bible Study

The women's Bible study class will resume on Tuesday, January 12 and will meet via Zoom on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. New participants should contact Marj DeVore by calling (262) 275-9426.

Taste of Grace

If you are new to Grace Church or perhaps you are considering membership, we invite you to attend *Taste of Grace* after the worship service on Sunday, January 17 at 11:30am. To sign up for this class, please visit the Welcome Center and be sure to fill out a lunch order form. (For those interested in pursuing church membership, this class along with the *Discover Grace* class that will be offered in February are required.)

Inclement Weather Cancellations

Any cancellations due to winter weather conditions will be reported with the local Wisconsin news stations (CBS 58, Fox 6, TMJ4, and WISN 12), and will also be posted on our website, Facebook page, and sent out via email to those on our email list.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

DECEMBER 2020

JULY 2020-DECEMBER 2020

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<i>Income</i>	\$28,112.14	\$21,516.53	\$6,595.61	\$147,523.47	\$140,765.02	\$6,758.45
<i>Expenses</i>	26,461.23	23,480.88	(2,980.35)	145,714.59	140,922.37	(4,792.22)
<i>Net</i>	1,650.91	(1,964.35)	3,615.26	1,808.88	(157.35)	1,966.23

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SERMON NOTES

Our Intentional Actions & God's Power and Presence, Part II Genesis 24:29-67

- I. Posture of the Heart (vv. 29-32, 18-20)
- II. Praiseworthy Proposal (vv. 33-53)
- III. Provision of God (vv. 54-67)

REFLECTION & RESPONSE

CONTENT

1. What stands out concerning Rebekah's treatment of Abraham's servant? Consider how she treats him before she realizes who he is.
2. What stands out concerning the hospitality of Laban to Abraham's servant? What does this reveal about Laban's heart posture?
3. What does Jeremiah 17:9-10 say about the heart? How can you practically take steps to make sure you are not being deceived by ungodly heart desires and motivations?
4. How is the servant's proposal divided into two parts (vv. 34-48)? What do the two parts emphasize?
5. How is the servant's report and proposal an example of not only sharing the details but also the divine work of God?
6. In what way did Pastor Austin suggest that Rebekah acted as a "female Abraham"? Are there any other examples of Rebekah living out an Abraham-like faith? Why do you think this passage connects Rebekah's faith with Abraham's faith?

CONTEMPLATE

Take some time to read over the below passages that describe how God demonstrated His love to you through Jesus. Receive these truths in a personal way. Soak them in. Write down any reflections that stand out to you. After your time of reflection, take a moment to praise God through either prayer or worship.

- Abraham sent a servant for the benefit of his son. (vv. 1-4) → God sends His Son for the benefit of sinners like me. (John 3:16)
- Abraham's son was required to remain in his homeland. (vv. 5-9) → God's Son was required to leave His home to bring me home. (Phil. 2:6-7; John 1:14)
- Abraham's servant had a way out of the oath. (vv. 8-9) → God's Son would not be given an alternate plan in order to redeem me. (Luke 23:34)
- Abraham's servant traveled with a caravan of wealth. (vv. 10-11) → God's Son left all of His possessions and became poor so that I might become rich. (2 Cor. 8:9)
- Abraham's son was given a beautiful, pure, and generous bride. (vv. 16-21) → God's Son would generously give Himself so that an adulterous bride, like me, would be made pure and beautiful. (1 John 4:10; Rom. 5:8)
- Abraham's servant would be welcomed with hospitality. (vv. 22-33) → God's Son would be rejected and treated with hostility in order to show me hospitality. (Is. 53:1-5; John 1:10-13)
- Abraham's servant drank a cup that was refreshing. (vv. 34-49) → God's Son would drink the bitter cup of divine judgment that I was supposed to drink. (Matt. 26:39; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 John 4:10)
- Abraham's son received a willing bride that was paid for by his father's monetary wealth. (vv. 50-67) → God's Son received a resistant bride, like me, that would cost Him His very life. (Rom. 5:7-10; 1 Cor. 6:20)
- Abraham's son was brought comfort by his bride. (v. 67) → God's Son brings comfort to His bride, the Church, of which I am a part. (2 Cor. 1:3-5; Matt. 11:28-30)

CONNECT

Use the "Community" reflection but instead of sharing with someone outside of the faith community, consider someone from Grace Church with whom you can share.

COMMUNITY

Use the enclosed graph to help you consider how God might be working through current events, situations, or experiences in your life. You will need to set aside at least 30 minutes to work through these questions and you will need to write down your reflections. After finishing, prayerfully ask God with whom you can share these reflections. For the community reflection you will want to choose friends or family who are unbelievers.