

God's over-ruling power

Daily reflections and questions following Sunday morning's service – thinking about how God spoke to Abram in Genesis 15.

1 Monday 22nd January

The passage opens with God telling Abram to not be afraid – and he repeats this to Abram's son Isaac (Gen 26:24) and his grandson Jacob (Gen 46:3).

What reasons does God give them for not being afraid, how do they respond?

Is there any situation in your life into which you need to hear God saying, "do not be afraid"? If so, spend time listening for Him and hearing what He wants to say to you about who He is and how much He loves you.

2 Tuesday 23rd January

Abram's complaint to God was that He hadn't given him a son (v3) – even though He had promised to do so. And Abram explains what he has done to resolve the situation in appointing someone else as his heir.

Are there things you think that God hasn't done that He said He would? How do you respond, do you try to compensate, do you need to have a conversation with God about it as Abram does here?

3 Wednesday 24th January

Paul develops the idea of Abram's belief in God being counted as righteousness (v6) in Romans 4. Work through that chapter and try to summarise the key points that Paul is making about the basis for our righteousness in God's sight.

Spend some time thanking God for all He has done for us in Jesus.

4 Thursday 25th January

In the strange seeming ceremony in verse 9-21 God is making a binding covenant with Abram to give the land to his descendants (v18).

Have a look at some of the other covenants / binding commitments God has made with His people and summarise the key things He is signing up for. How do you respond?

Genesis 9:8-17	
Exodus 19:4-8	
2 Samuel 7:8-16	
Matthew 26:27-28	
Hebrews 8:1-13	

5 Friday 26th January

God's promise of the land isn't going to be fulfilled for over 400 years (v13). What does this tell us about God's timescale and how He works out His plans?

How should this perspective affect how we think about things – particularly about success and failure?

6 Saturday 27th January

Go back over the week and try to summarise what these insights into God's character, His power, His promises, His timing have meant to you? In what ways will this change how you relate and pray to Him?

Ask God to continue to show you more of himself and more of His purposes for your life.