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**July 18th , 2021**

**Genesis 18:16-33**

**God, Righteous and Just**

**SERMON NOTES**

**My takeaways:**

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Why did God tell Abraham what he was going to do with Sodom and Gomorrah?

1. Abraham has a responsibility to bless the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Abraham had a responsibility to teach \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Sodom and Gomorrah’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ deserved \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Abraham prayed for the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of those \_\_\_\_\_\_ from God

God’s judgements are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

God hears the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Tools for Today:**

1. God calls us to be a people who \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ righteousness and justice
2. Trust \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and receive Christ’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS**

1. What insight, lesson, or observation from this weekend’s message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? How was your experience with the Life Tool’s this past week?

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2. Verses 17-19 shows that it will be a struggle for Abraham to reconcile God’s righteous and just character with his current understanding of God. This is true of us as well. Why do we struggle to reconcile a loving God with his righteousness and justice?

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3. Can God be the God of Love without righteousness, justice, and wrath?

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4. Our world today is obsessed with a “social justice” movement. What determines what is righteous and just in our world?

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5. God wanted Abraham to understand his righteousness and justice because Abraham would be responsible for leading and teaching his children and household. To what extent are we as Christians responsible for doing the same thing?

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6. Read vs 25. Abraham's struggle to understand God is on full display when he asks, “Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?” Abraham’s heart was right, but what was wrong about his thinking?

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7. Abraham intercedes boldly for those far from God. What does this teach us about how we view people far from God?

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8. The “I Pray For America” campaign is a focus for our church in the month of July. How does the narrative of God’s just judgement on the sin of Sodom and Gomorrah affect how we should pray for our nation?

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**LIFE TOOLS**

**Parents of Pre-K – 6th:** Ask your children if they’ve ever known anyone who is always right? Feel free to joke about how there are some people who think they’re right all the time, but because we’re all sinners we can be sure that no one is right all the time. We all are wrong in the things we think or say or do, but the Bible tells us that God is always right and his actions are always right. Explain that the word we can use to describe these attributes of God is RIGHTEOUS and JUST.

**Parents of Teens:** With your teen, lead them in a time of intercession for those around you. Make a list of 10 or so people in your life or community that you would like to intercede for. Intercede means to act or interpose in behalf of someone in difficulty or trouble, as by pleading or petition. It also means to attempt to reconcile differences between two people or groups. The world needs Jesus and for some, God will use the intercession of believers to reach the lost. Romans 8:34