

Love Notes: The Genesis of Faith Series Chapters 14-15

As promised, I have compiled the discussion notes from our Soulful Saturday meeting on **11/14/2025**. On this day we continued with the Genesis of Faith Series. We read from Genesis Chapters 12-13 and to capture the significance of the our weekly discussion of the Word, we referenced: **Isaiah 25:1 ERV**

[1] Lord, you are my God. I honor you and praise your name, because you did amazing things. The words you said long ago are completely true; everything happened exactly as you said it would.

Speaker Notes: *As we start the Sabaath day, gathered in the name of The Most High God, let us give reverence to The Word of God. May it be the lamp that guides our feet and the light that reveals which paths to take. I love the Word of God because it's the living Word. It gets down inside the deepest parts of you, it heals, it restores the body, it refreshes the soul, and when complete, it transforms us from the inside out. The evil which was once tempting, the burdens we once carried, the battles we once warred with daily, and the stumbling blocks that once tripped us up no longer hold value or space for us. The Word of God is our teacher, our protector, our guide, our human resource, our spiritual leader, and our creator.*

And just like the Father whom we were created in likeness to, our Words are powerful. What we say and what we receive into our hearts and minds are the battlegrounds of our own making. So let us be mindful of the company we keep, the harmful words we repeat over our lives and others, the thoughts we share and listen to. Let us renew our strength in God and retain our power in silence. Our silence is what frees more space for God's Word. Our obedience is what frees us for more space for God's Will. Our faithfulness is what frees us for marriage and our love for God, demonstrated by keeping His commandments, is what frees us from sin.

But as much as we are made in the likeness of God, we are not God. Our words are sometimes mistakes. Oftentimes we don't intend the harm that comes from them. We have good intentions. We just wanted to be understood, we just wanted to be heard, validated, protected, defended, and respected. We mean no harm, we mean well. But we still choose the wrong words. Those wrong words still left your body corrupting all that it entered, the harmful words still haunt the target years after you fired the debilitating shot, and the cursed words are still haunting you for the evil that it gave access to. Our Words are powerful, what we say is more powerful than poison, more intoxicating than drugs, and yet it is the least respected power that we hold.

So as we continue to grow in our awareness of our Father God, let us also grow in awareness of the power He endowed us with. Let's praise God for His Word which holds the power to heal. Let's thank God for correcting the errors that our words created, for protecting the vessel that He chose as His home, and let's thank Him for His consistency, His faithfulness, His heart, and His mercy. Let's praise Him for being an unchanging God who still does the amazing things he's been doing since His Word gave Light. Let's honor God for being the constant truth and measure of what is good. Let's worship God because He is always true, and because everything happened just as He said they would...the first time. How many know our Father God's Word is true the first time and we are best served to honor His instruction the first time? This is our goal,

that we become more and more aligned with His Word, His Timing, His Desire, His Purpose, and His Son, Jesus. May God continue His perfect work in us until completion.

Recap: *Previously we discussed the beginning of Creation, Genesis, Chapters 1-3. We discussed the Light from the first day being Jesus and how He was there before the creation of everything. We discussed the spiritual and physical realities that are congruent and how everything that happens on earth, occurs in the spiritual realm first. We learned that deception begins with us believing there is an alternate or better way apart from what God says, and deception ends with us discovering there is no other way. When we discussed Genesis, Chapters 4-5. We analyzed why Cain killed Abel and studied how murder wasn't committed because of jealousy or anger, it occurred because of Cain's heart posture.*

Then, when discussing Genesis, Chapters 6-8, we looked at why the fallen angels took women for wives and we delved into the power of women, and our unique ability to steer the fate of mankind. We witnessed God's decision to cleanse the Earth of all mankind "But Noah found favor". It was one man that brought sin into the world Adam, and one man that would replenish the earth Noah. Then, when studying Genesis Chapters, 9-10, we acknowledged that Noah's obedience was pure and righteous in God's eyes, because Noah's obedience didn't require proof or a witness. And Noah had 3 sons, they became the fathers of all nations, but it was through the lineage of Shem (Name) and His descendant, Abram, that God made His covenant with after Abram made the sacrifice of separating from his nephew, Lot.

Genesis: Chapter 14 (War of Kings)

The Earth's Kings Amraphel, Arioch, Ellasar, Chedorlaomer and Tidal join forces and invade Jordan Valley. Genesis 14:1-2 AMP

[1] In the days of the [Eastern] kings Amraphel of Shinar, Arioch of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer of Elam, and Tidal of Goiim, [2] they [invaded the Jordan Valley near the Dead Sea, and] made war with Bera king of Sodom, Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar).

Speaker Notes: *So now that mankind is spread all over the world, they have learned to war with each other by creating tribes, mobs, leaders, followers, social groups, and politics. Why is the allure to be like God so tempting? Why does mankind consistently choose to do what they believe is best instead of what God instructed? Why do Kings abandon God and Queens forget the source of their power? Have we gotten so comfortable in our likeness that we've forgotten our ruler?*

We ended Chapter 13 with Lot still under the influence of Egypt's luxury. Lot's exposure to living with women, power, unlimited resources, and the favor of Pharoah has influenced his idea of what is fruitful and desirable. As a result he chooses Jordan Valley, just on the outskirts of town. Just on the edge of danger. Similar to the Kings surrounding this coveted area, when we are ruling without God, it is only a matter of time before we are required to answer for our invasions. The places and environments we've entered that weren't ordained by God, have a consequence

that God intended to shield us from. And those without repentance will be required to answer for unsanctioned war on their neighbors, war on their families, and the blood on their hands.

It is not for Queens to enter the business of Kings. Queens rule as mothers of the earth and prophets in God's Kingdom. Queens hold the future of God's promises and she shares them with the world when it's time. Our Kings need us to remind them of their purpose, to support them in well-doing, and encourage them in Christ and leadership. Without us they war within, they war with each other, then they become allies and war together. It is in the power of the Queen that we are saved from the battles of Kings, so we owe it to ourselves and mankind to step into our power.

Bera, Birsha, Shinab, Shemeber, and Zeboiim become the servants of their captors.

Genesis 14:3-4 CEV

[3-4] King Chedorlaomer and his allies had ruled these last five kings for twelve years, but in the thirteenth year the kings rebelled and joined forces in Siddim Valley, which is now covered by the southern part of the Dead Sea.

Speaker Notes: *The 4 eastern kings banded together, invaded Jordan Valley, started war with the people that lived there, and then they ruled over them for 12 years after the invasion. And even though they had more people, and the advantage of knowing the land, they were robbed of it and then stripped of their power. How many know if the enemy can't steal, kill, or destroy, then he will get others to do it? He's so cunning that he makes it look like your idea. He'll say let's be rulers, take over, dominate, and subdue. It is our God-given right.*

Then instead of combating the half-lie with the full truth, we choose a half-truth. The full truth is that we're supposed to dominate the flesh; the half truth doesn't consider the flesh, it only suggests that we dominate. Sometimes we ignore what's wrong in exchange for what feels good. When we double-down on our self-righteous sensibilities we end up in wars with no end. How many know only God makes Kings? That doesn't mean that a crown, wealth, or prosperity makes a King. It means it is God that makes true Kings, gives true power, purpose, and generational royalty. So it may be possible to hold the title without God, the position just doesn't hold any power without God.

So for 12 years the 4 invading Kings ruled the 5 kings in Jordan Valley. But in the 13th year...they rebelled. How many know there is only so much strength that we can summon before we break? And we only break when we refuse to bend. How many know it doesn't have to break your heart for it to be a lesson? We can simply seek God, wait on God, hope in God, and obey the guidance He gives. It would eliminate so much of the heartbreak. So much of the disappointment, setbacks, and challenges would be avoided if we would just bend our knees and bow our heads. It is here where we'll find all the support and strength that we've always needed. When we are postured in prayer, we are best supported to hear from God. Prayer prevents us from breaking down and giving up, or worse, giving in.

Even when the enemy thought he had us, thought he won, thought we would be lost in our sin forever, we stepped out on faith. We closed our eyes because the new and unknown future

looked scarier than the unsuccessful and painful past. We did whatever was necessary to keep our sights on God and the prize of His Kingdom reward. Now we navigate the world through the lens of our Father God and embrace fearlessness no matter what the reality.

The 4 Kings decide to invade and conquer more territory. Genesis 14:5-7 AMP

[5] In the fourteenth year Chedorlaomer and the [three] kings who were with him attacked and subdued the Rephaim in Ashteroth-karnaim, the Zuzim in Ham, and the Emim in Shaveh-kiriathaim, [6] and the Horites in their mountainous country of Seir, as far as El-paran, which is on the border of the wilderness. [7] Then they turned back and came to En-mishpat (that is, Kadesh), and subdued all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites who lived in Hazazon-tamar.

Speaker Notes: *In the 13th year the 5 Kings that are oppressed in their own country finally decide they aren't going to take it. They decided to fight back. They look like the underdog we like to root for. They look like the victim. Meanwhile the invading kings are now in the 14th year of their invasion and they're no longer content with the green pastures and bountiful waters, they want to conquer the coasts, the mountains, and the wilderness too! They are the remnants of Nimrod's kingdom. They are conquerors without God. Kings of their own making and they are completely oblivious to their humanity and need for God. They are powerful but they are lost. They are without guidance and they are without light so they stumble around in the dark, blindly navigating the errors of their trials, and the perversion of their purpose. This is the fate of kings without God. They become victims of their own evil devices. God will not be mocked. There is no victory with God. There is no conquering without His permissible will. There is nothing without God.*

4 kings vs 5 kings in the battle of tar pits Genesis 14:8-10 NLT

[8] Then the rebel kings of Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, Zeboiim, and Bela (also called Zoar) prepared for battle in the valley of the Dead Sea. [9] They fought against King Chedorlaomer of Elam, King Tidal of Goiim, King Amraphel of Babylonia, and King Arioch of Ellasar—four kings against five. [10] As it happened, the valley of the Dead Sea was filled with tar pits. And as the army of the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, some fell into the tar pits, while the rest escaped into the mountains.

Speaker Notes: *So now the rebel kings of Sodom and Gomorrah are preparing for battle. But how are they preparing for battle? Are they practicing high kicks, and low punches? Are they throwing knives and practicing sword fighting? How are they preparing for war? Did they study their enemy or the battlefield? Did they learn the strengths and weaknesses of their allies? The truth is it really doesn't matter how well they prepared for battle if they didn't start and end it with God, it was pointless and ineffective. They never had a chance. The only way to successfully prepare for battle is by putting on the entire armor of God. **Ephesians 6:13-18 MSG***

[13-18] Be prepared. You're up against far more than you can handle on your own. Take all the help you can get, every weapon God has issued, so that when it's all over but the shouting you'll still be on your feet. Truth, righteousness, peace, faith, and salvation are more than words. Learn how to apply them. You'll need them throughout your life. God's Word is an indispensable weapon. In the same way, prayer is essential in this ongoing warfare. Pray hard and long. Pray

for your brothers and sisters. Keep your eyes open. Keep each other's spirits up so that no one falls behind or drops out.

These verses teach us that these Kings weren't properly prepared, they were improperly reactive. Both sides were being led by their emotions. On one hand we have a group of Kings that desire to have more than they've earned. On the other hand we have a group of Kings that desire to keep what they've already surrendered. Their need for a ruler is made evident in how quickly they fall into the traps of their own plans. The valley they chose to fight in was in the dead sea. Their plan began with a recipe for disaster. They chose to fight in water that will not heal or give life. They decided to fight without God leading them into battle. They chose to fight in conditions that God never gave guidance to enter, or instructions on how to navigate the terrain. They chose environments that were too difficult to fulfill purpose, so they entered a battlefield of tar pits and mountains.

So now they're at war and have no guidance or direction on how to proceed. Now they are fighting in the dark. Some rebel kings fall into the pits laid out for them and die, then there are others that run to higher ground to escape the traps that await them. They both flee because they were not prepared for battle. They allowed their emotions to lead them into a war they weren't prepared to fight. They allowed their pride to be the voice of justice and they let their entitlement get in the way of the appreciation of the Most High God. So when they are brought low, they are destroyed by the pits they designed for their enemies, and when they are brought high, it is only to see their allies and friends get slaughtered with the pits of the enemy. The lesson is painfully clear, it is God that wins our battles and our obedience that saves our lives.

Genesis: Chapter 14 continued (War of Kings)

The 4 Kings take Lot's servants and everything he owned Genesis 14:11-12 NLT

[11] The victorious invaders then plundered Sodom and Gomorrah and headed for home, taking with them all the spoils of war and the food supplies. [12] They also captured Lot—Abram's nephew who lived in Sodom—and carried off everything he owned.

Speaker Notes: *So Lot loses the blessing of Abram. At the end of chapter 13, Lot was seeking an advantage over his uncle Abram. Lot was looking for competition and has now found defeat. When selecting land for him and his household, Lot looked at natural resources and the economy, but Abram looked at God. Abram went to God about all of the moves he considered. He made his emotions secondary at best, and he put God first. It wasn't easy for him though.*

Putting God first means that you won't always like or agree with His guidance, but you must obey it. Not only because absolute obedience is a beautiful aroma for God, but absolute obedience ensures the ultimate goodness of God. But Lot struggles with absolute obedience. Lot wants to live free and on his own terms. He wanted a life of luxury and a fast life, but what good is it to gain the world and lose your soul? Is getting the freedom that you want worth losing the freedom found in God? Lot finally gets a life of his own but he walks away from the presence of his favor in order to do so, and as a result, he loses the life he fought so hard to keep.

Lot's servant escapes and tells Abram about his nephew Genesis 14:13 NLT

[13] But one of Lot's men escaped and reported everything to Abram the Hebrew, who was living near the oak grove belonging to Mamre the Amorite. Mamre and his relatives, Eshcol and Aner, were Abram's allies.

Speaker Notes: *Abram's peace in the land of God is now altered by a past He won't release. How many know you have to let go of the past to embrace the future? It is better to live in an overcrowded field in the land of God than to live all alone in the lessons of the past.*

Abram goes to war with 318 men to save his nephew Genesis 14:14-16 NLT

[14] When Abram heard that his nephew Lot had been captured, he mobilized the 318 trained men who had been born into his household. Then he pursued Kedorlaomer's army until he caught up with them at Dan. [15] There he divided his men and attacked during the night. Kedorlaomer's army fled, but Abram chased them as far as Hobah, north of Damascus. [16] Abram recovered all the goods that had been taken, and he brought back his nephew Lot with his possessions and all the women and other captives.

Speaker Notes: *Abram did with his household of a faithful 318, what 9 kings couldn't do, he ended the war. How many know when you go to battle with God on your side, you are fully armed. You need no other support or confidence because God is fighting the battle for you. Abram went after his enemies but God went before him. He attacked at night and did it with smaller groups than the kings formed when they were led by worldly knowledge. God taught Abram how battles are really won, in prayer and in connection with the Father (the Knowledge of God). God reveals the steps and paths that we should take. God will give you strategy and warn you of upcoming obstacles, and hidden traps to avoid. God saves!*

So Abram pursued his enemy and was victorious. He redeemed his nephew, his nephew's family, their servants and all of his possessions, but not before chasing the enemy away. It's not enough to be redeemed by our savior, we must continue to chase the enemy away.

Genesis: Chapter 14 continued (Kings and Priests)

The King of Sodom stops Abram on his way home. Genesis 14:17 NLT

[17] After Abram returned from his victory over Kedorlaomer and all his allies, the king of Sodom went out to meet him in the valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley).

Speaker Notes: *This time Abram finds himself in the valley of Kings victorious in battle and the King of Sodom comes out to meet the man with a small household who beat his enemies. God's favor attracts the King's favor.*

El Elyon sends His priest Melchizedek to bless Abram Genesis 14:18-20 AMP

[[18] Melchizedek king of Salem (ancient Jerusalem) brought out bread and wine [for them]; he was the priest of God Most High. [19] And Melchizedek blessed Abram and said, "Blessed (joyful, favored) be Abram by God Most High, Creator and Possessor of heaven and earth; [20] And blessed, praised, and glorified be God Most High, Who has given your enemies into your hand." And Abram gave him a tenth of all [the treasure he had taken in battle].

Speaker Notes: Melchizedek, king of righteousness and peace, also comes out to meet the man who slayed Kings with a small militia. How many know that when you allow God to guide you in all things, you'll become well-known as an example for the children of God and as a warning to His enemies. Melchizedek is the first priest who is also a king and he doesn't get his title from the Levitical priesthood, he gains his superiority in God's kingdom from God and by righteousness. Which is why Jesus is foretold in the story and order of Melchizedek.

Like Jesus, Melchizedek brings bread and wine to the followers of God and blesses them in the name of El Elyon, the Most High God. And also like Jesus, Melchizedek credits God for the victory, not man. Abram recognizes him as a man of God and gives him 10% of all that was recovered from the victory of war. Abram pays tithes first. He doesn't give to his household without first giving God the glory. This is the faith and heart posture that we should be striving to have and mirror. For it is the heart posture that gets God to move.

References: [Heb 7:1-10] Psalms 1:10, Ephesians 6:13-18 MSG

Abram makes a vow to God Genesis 14:21-23 AMP

[21] The king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the people and keep the goods (spoils of battle) for yourself." [22] But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have raised my hand and sworn an oath to the Lord God Most High, the Creator and Possessor of heaven and earth, [23] that I would not take anything that is yours, from a thread to a sandal strap, so you could not say, 'I [the King of Sodom] have made Abram rich."

Abram blesses his allies and restores his enemies Genesis 14:24 AMP

[24] I will take nothing except what my young men have eaten, and the share of the spoils belonging to the men [my allies] who went with me—Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their share of the spoils."

Speaker Notes: *The king of Sodom doesn't come with blessings like the king of Jerusalem. He comes with his hand out, demanding his people in exchange for their possessions. But in this moment we see the confirmation of Mechizadek, it was God that delivered the victory. And God delivered the victory to Abram because he was in communion with him. Abram consulted and was prepared for battle by God. Even before the battle, he received instructions on what was to be done once the battle was won. Abram remained true to his word and counsel when he advised the evil king that he would never give him the ability to share in the glory of God. So Abram becomes a blessing for kings, priests, allies and enemies and all the credit is given to God and God alone.*

Chapter 15: Abram is promised a son

God gives Abram a vision of His Word saying Fear not Genesis 15:1 AFV

[1] After these things the Word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield and your exceedingly great reward."

Abram questions God not giving him children B'resheet (Gen) 15:2-3 CJB

[2] Avram replied, “Adonai, God, what good will your gifts be to me if I continue childless; and Eli’ezer from Dammeseek inherits my possessions? [3] You haven’t given me a child,” Avram continued, “so someone born in my house will be my heir.” [4] But the word of Adonai came to him: “This man will not be your heir. No, your heir will be a child from your own body.”

Abram looks at the stars and believes God. Genesis 15:4-6 TPT

[4] Immediately, the word of Yahweh came to him: “No! Eliezer will not be your heir. I will give you a son from your own body to be your heir.” [5] Then Yahweh brought him outside his tent and said, “Gaze into the night sky. Go ahead and try to count the stars.” He continued, “Your seed will be as numerous as the stars!” [6] And Abram trusted every word Yahweh had spoken! And because of his faith, Yahweh credited it to him as righteousness.

Abram asks God for proof of land ownership Genesis 15:7-8 MSG

[7] God continued, “I’m the same God who brought you from Ur of the Chaldees and gave you this land to own.” [8] Abram said, “Master God, how am I to know this, that it will all be mine?”

Abram brings a cow, a goat, a ram, a turtledove, and pigeon to God Genesis 15:9-11 AMP

[9] So God said to him, “Bring Me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” [10] So Abram brought all these to Him and cut them down the middle, and laid each half opposite the other; but he did not cut the birds. [11] The birds of prey swooped down on the carcasses, but Abram drove them away.

Abram has a nightmare about the future of his descendants enslaved Genesis 15:12-14 AMP

[12] When the sun was setting, a deep sleep overcame Abram; and a horror (terror, shuddering fear, nightmare) of great darkness overcame him. [13] God said to Abram, “Know for sure that your descendants will be strangers [living temporarily] in a land (Egypt) that is not theirs, where they will be enslaved and oppressed for four hundred years. [14] But on that nation whom your descendants will serve I will bring judgment, and afterward they will come out [of that land] with great possessions.

While asleep, God promises Abram a peaceful death in Canaan Genesis 15:15-16 AMP

[15] As for you, you shall [die and] go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old age. [16] Then in the fourth generation your descendants shall return here [to Canaan, the land of promise], for the wickedness and guilt of the Amorites is not yet complete (finished).”

God makes a covenant by burning Abram’s offering Genesis 15:17-21 MSG

[17-21] When the sun was down and it was dark, a smoking firepot and a flaming torch moved between the split carcasses. That’s when God made a covenant with Abram: “I’m giving this land to your children, from the Nile River in Egypt to the River Euphrates in Assyria—the country of the Kenites, Kenizzites, Kadmonites, Hittites, Perizzites, Rephaim, Amorites, Canaanites, Girgashites, and Jebusites.”

Speaker Notes: *Speaker Notes: After God told Abram to leave the land of his father and relatives, He shows him the land of Canaan will be his forever. Throughout his journey, Abram’s*

faith keeps evolving; he goes from keeping the truth of his marriage from Pharaoh to learning that God is with him and will destroy anyone who comes against him, to realizing there is no one greater than El Elyon. Then Abram's faith grows enough for him to finally separate from His past and family to go into the land of God.

Then God gives him victory over Kings that fought each other for 14 years, meanwhile Abram was able to defeat them with his small household in one night. And now God has reiterated his promise and clarified the details that Abram was unsure of. God confirms Abram's seed will come from his loins and no one else's. And now, Abram believed God. How many know faith grows? When God sees that we are growing in faith, He grows in miracles and wonders. How many know the faith walk is a journey with God?

The journey is one that grows with you and evolves. Abram didn't understand how God would make his family into a great nation, even so, Abram believed God's promise to give him a son. Abram's faith pleased God and he was made righteous and justified by believing in God. Not by his deeds, but by faith, signifying the type of faith that God desires from all of His children.

God begins increasing the faith of Abram through signs and wonders. So when Abram asks God how he will know the land will be forever be his? God reveals it in his dreams, in nightmares, in darkness, and through the Holy Spirit. Usually it's God's servants that offer Him burnt offerings, but in this instance with Abram. The Holy Spirit works moves through the animal sacrifices and burns them for Abram to see. Through Abram we learn how God increases our faith and how we hear and commune with the Most High God.

It is the Holy Spirit that reveals the unseen and the unknown. But it requires our participation and our faith so we must do whatever it takes to get in a state where God can reveal Himself and His desires to us. We must leave any person, place, thing, or time that threatens our faith or opposes the will of the Father. The success of our journey is predicated on our capacity for faith and our faith and obedience is the only currency that our Father accepts and credits as righteousness. Let us be faithful!

References:[Heb 11:12] [Rom 4:3, 18-22; Gal 3:6; James 2:23] [Ex 12:35, 36; Acts 7:6, 7] [Ex 12:40] [Josh 24:15]

What did you eat?

Meditate on The Word this week, feel free to email follow-up questions or any thoughts you would like to share with me or in tomorrow's meeting.

Homework Assignment: Meditate on your role of Queen. Focus and journal the areas where you feel called and chosen for His Kingdom work.

Thank you again for journeying with me on our faith walk! I love you infinitely! 🍕

Candice.