

July 7 - July 8, 2018 / Week 2 / Pastor Joseph Sissac

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HE KNOWS

HE'S ABLE **Serve**

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John 15 verses 14 and 16 reveal two incredibly imporant facts about our relationship with the Lord Jesus: He has chosen us, and He calls us His **friends**. We have been chosen to abide, and when we abide He elevates us from servant status to friendship status.

ABIDING ABRAHAM

Scripture mentions multiple times that Abraham was a friend of God (Isaiah 41:8, James 2:22-23). In Genesis 12, God chose Abraham and revealed His vision for Abraham's life and thus Israel. Friendship, however, wasn't instant at the time of choosing. It **developed** through abiding and obedience. The same can be true for every follower of Christ today if we are willing to abide continually. In Abraham's life we find a very real example of how important abiding is in our everyday life and decisions. Abraham knew God's plan, yet multiple times he stepped out of abiding and stepped into **fear** and speculation. The non-abiding Abraham:

- Lies about Sarah being his wife (Gen. 12:10-20)
- Has a child with Hagar (Gen. 16:1-4)
- Lies again about Sarah being his wife (Gen.20:1-18)

Each one of these acts was based on non-abiding decisions. Because of fear, speculation, assumptions and other negative emotions, Abraham attempted to execute God's plan without following God's **process**. Register at cop.church under the Register Now Tab

FAITH AT WORK WITH WORKS

James 2:22-23 gives us a tremendous truth regarding the importance of continuing as ABIDERS. **"You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected; and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, 'And Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness,' and he was called the friend of God."** The ABIDER must remain in abiding faith. When we step out of faith we make poor decisions.

Abraham was abiding (worship/serve) when he offered Isaac because he heard the God-given plan and followed the God-given process (Gen. 22). **Faith was** <u>working</u> with his works. But faith doesn't work through all works (actions). **Faith only works through Goddirected works.** In other words, God's power supports what God commands. God-directed works are only discovered in the same place the plan was given; **The Chosen, Friendship-Abiding Relationship with God.** In ABIDING PRAYER we receive the plan and all the GOD-ORDAINED steps of faith to accomplish it.

NOTES:



FACTORPOINT **PRAYERS**

Monday:

Lord Jesus thank You for the opportunity to abide in You, to pray to You, to hear Your voice, to know my God-given purpose and to follow every God-given step of faith. (John 15:7, Jeremiah 29:11, Hebrews 11:1). Thank for sustaining me in praying in the face of every uncertainty and negative emotion (Romans 8:28). I trust You O Lord to accomplish Your will, in Your ways, in Your timing. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Tuesday: ·

Father, I thank You that friendship with You is possible through Christ Jesus. Thank You for always being with me and for being my God. For strengthening me and helping me at all times. (Isaiah 41:10-11). Remind me Holy Spirit to pray about everything and not to lean on my own understanding. (Proverbs 3:5, Philippians 4:6).

Wednesday: -

Holy Spirit today I acknowledge You and thank You for reminding me of what I've been taught. (John 14:26). Give me grace to resist the temptations of the enemy. (James 4:7). Help me to pray and speak the truth and act with integrity, trusting always in Your faithfulness to provide. For this I give You praise O Lord! In Jesus' name. Amen.

BIBLE STUDY IS ON SUMMER BREAK THE MONTH OF JULY

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY NOON BIBLE STUDIES WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDIES

We will resume Wednesday AUGUST 1st at 6:30pm with Family Night and classes for all ages

Thursday:

Lord, I give You thanks for the lessons learned from the life of Abraham. You O Lord are the Author and Finisher of my faith. (Hebrew 12:2). Give me peace and confidence not only in Your vision for my life but also in every step of faith You lead me in to fulfill it. Thank You for leading me in faith (works/action) even when it doesn't make sense to my natural understanding. (Psalm 27:11). You are my source and strength! (Psalm 28:7). I trust Your will for my life above all else. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Friday: -

Lord Jesus help me to learn to abide in You in my everyday life. You are an omnipresent God (Psalm 139:7-10). Teach me to acknowledge You and walk with You at home, at work, at school and in all that I encounter. Teach me what it means to abide with You in worship. (John 4:23-24). I pray that my offering of praise and thanksgiving is pleasing in Your sight. To You be the glory, honor and praise. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Saturday:

Father in Heaven, thank You for continually cultivating my heart and pruning me. (John 15:2). By Your grace, I submit to Your plan. Search my heart, remove anything in me that is not pleasing to You. (Psalm 139:23-24). I ask that my walk of faith will be Spirit-led and used to demonstrate Your glory to the world. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT TEACHING ON THE ABIDER AND RECEIVE THE PRAYER SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK.

WEEKEND CELEBRATIONS

SATURDAYS 5PM SUNDAYS 8:30AM / 10:30AM / 12:30PM

BIBLE STUDY IS ON SUMMER BREAK

WEDNESDAYS 12NOON AND 7PM AT THE CATHEDRAL THURSDAYS 12NOON AT THE POWER CENTER



WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAYS AT 8PM COMCAST CHANNEL 20 /SUREWEST CHANNEL 19

THE CATHEDRAL 2223 Capitol Avenue Sacramento, CA 95816

EAST CAMPUS 10455 Investment Circle Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 **PAMELA B. TRIPETTE BLDG** Children and Youth Complex Administration Office

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