

SUNDAY MESSAGE DISCUSSION GUIDE



Message Title: Connect To The Source

Date: 2.12.2017

Big Idea:

When God called Abraham to sacrifice his only son Isaac, Abraham obeyed because he trusted that God wanted what was best for him. He acted not out of fear or allegiance to rules, but out of his knowledge of God's goodness. And God responded by not only sparing Isaac, but by giving a greater blessing. Too often, we fail to take Abraham's position in our relationship with God. We think that we need to stick to a set of rules or perform some set of duties, and then God will love us. But the Bible tells us that God's goodness precedes our actions. The more that we recognize His goodness, and the more that we realize that He loves us and wants to bless us, then the more that we will want to be close to Him. Our Christian walk, therefore, is not a matter of keeping rules, but of relating to the Good Father who loves us and wants to bless us.

"For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations." (Psalm 100:5 ESV)

Question 1:

Like Mitch said, our actions reveal what we love. If someone were to watch your actions for a week, what would they think you love?

Question 2:

What is the difference between relationship and rule-keeping?

Question 3:

How do we build a relationship with God outside of merely holding to rules?

Prayer Focus:

We praise God for His goodness, and ask that He bring us into greater understanding of it.

Next Steps:

Part of the reason people think of Christianity as no more than a set of rules is that we conduct our own relationships on this basis. We spend too much time telling people what is right or wrong, instead of just being with them and connecting with them. This week, commit to connect with one person, not to provide moral guidance, but to simply be with them. Let them see God's goodness through the way you care about them.