

SERMON GUIDE

DARING TO DRAW NEAR

Genesis 18:16-33

Pastor I Tim Prince

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Faith Community Church | fchudson.com

The Conversation Guide is a great tool for individuals, families, discipleship groups and Missional Communities to take a deeper, more personal dive into the content of the current sermon series. The Conversation Guide will be posted by every Friday on the 'live' page of our website and in our weekly newsletter. We encourage you to use it this week on your own, around your dinner tables, over coffee with your friends or in your faith groups!

The Conversation Guide is built on the SOAP model, which is a tool you can use when reading the Bible. SOAP helps you be intentional about paying attention to:

Scripture that stands out to you while you read

Observations about the verse or phrases that stood out to you

Application that connect the verses to your real life and relationships

Pray that invites God to participate in your life and provide power to follow him

Conversation Questions

Getting to Know Me: Have you ever tried to change someone's mind about something? What was it and how did it go?

Read Genesis 18:16-33

- S** What do you love most about what you just read? What verses, phrases, or words stand out to you as you read these scriptures? Is anything jumping off the page and affecting your spirit?
- O** Why do you think God decided to let Abraham in on what he is about to do to Sodom (v.17-21)? What is the connection between what God is about to do to Sodom and God's call on Abraham's life?
- O** What do you think Abraham is thinking and feeling in verse 22-23 where it says that "Abraham stood still before the LORD... then drew near...?"
 - Why did Abraham draw near?
 - Why do you think Abraham is really trying to understand by coming back to God again and again (v.23-32)? What is he afraid of? What does he want to know?
- O** What does Abraham learn about God in this story? How do you think he's feeling when he leaves in verse 33?
- A** If God had written this passage just for you, what words, phrases or ideas would he have underlined specifically for you? What did you need to hear most? Why?
- A** Is it easy or hard for you to draw near to God regularly? When you are confused or hurting, is your first thought to say, "I have to take this question or issue to my Father in prayer. He'll know what to do."
 - Why or why not?
 - What questions do you have about drawing near to God regularly in prayer? What will you do this week to address those questions?
- P** Talk to God about your application responses above. Ask him to speak to you, help you, forgive you, and provide direction that you need.