

Pastor Ron Case
4/10/16

“God’s Friend – Abraham”

“...Abraham, my friend” (Isaiah 41:8)

The Call to Crossover – Break from the Past

Joshua 24:2-3 – (2) “And Joshua said to all the people, ‘Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, ‘Long ago, your fathers lived beyond the Euphrates, Terah, the father of Abraham and of Nahor; and they served other gods. (3) Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan, and made his offspring many. I gave him Isaac.’”

Genesis 12:1-3 – (1) “Now the LORD said to Abram, ‘Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. (2) And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. (3) I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’”

The Commitment to Crossover – Pressing on in the Present

Genesis 12:4-5, 7 – (4) “So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. (5) ...they came to the land of Canaan, (7) Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, ‘To your offspring I will give this land.’ So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.”

Hebrews 11:8-10 – (8) “By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. (9) By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. (10) For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.”

The Cost of Crossover – Hopeful Future

Hebrews 11:13-19 – (13) “These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. (14) For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. (15) If they had been

thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. (16) But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city. (17) By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, (18) of whom it was said, ‘Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.’ (19) He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.”

Crossover is a Lifestyle for God’s Friends

Concerning this Friendship with God...

“You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.” (John 15:14-15)

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” (Romans 12:2)

“You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, ‘He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us’?” (James 4:4-5)

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

As a Christian, is God calling me to leave something behind?

Am I practicing daily crossover in my heart and mind as I encounter issues in life?