



DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

How will I Know... by Billy

READ GENESIS 15:8

- **A**bram is the man of faith and has just before in v.6 received God's righteousness based on this faith.
- But Abram was still human. He could believe God for a son to be born to him but not for the land to be given to him. (notice God's 2 distinct promises in v.4 and v.7)
- It wasn't that unbelief was creeping into his heart. He lacked assurance and so asked God for it.
- Is there something similar going on in our own experience as followers of Jesus?
- We can believe God for His promise of salvation. We can believe that He has made us righteous because Jesus Christ paid the full penalty for our sins.
- This is the foundation. This saving faith has sustained many weary souls as they experience repeated failure.
- But we struggle with assurance that God is working out His purpose in our lives day to day.
- How will I know what I should be doing? How can a failed marriage/relationship have any purpose?
- How can a chronic illness bring any meaning? How can ongoing depression be turned around for good?
- I can identify with those who suffer with depression, with those who are battling with illness and with those who are in challenging relationships.
- You see as believers we have this in common. God has made us righteous despite the apparent mess and chaos. We can thank God that we are His new creation in Christ Jesus.
- Notice how God responded to Abram's quest for assurance.
- When a covenant/agreement was made between 2 parties in the ancient near East, animals were sacrificed and cut in two and the parties to the covenant walked between the pieces in order to confirm the agreement.
- God did not require Abram to walk between the pieces to keep his side of the agreement but He appeared Himself in the form of a smoking oven and a flaming torch.
- God was going to keep his side of the covenant no matter what Abram did. ■



WEEKLY EVENTS/NOTICES

Week 07

Events /Notices

- ▶ **New youth Bible study**- discovering the awesomeness of God- starts 2pm this *Sunday 17th* and will run every second week.
- ▶ **Bible study** this *Friday 22nd @ 8pm*
- ▶ **Jacob Prasch** will speak in Leixlip assembly this *Sunday 17th*. (Contact Billy for more details)
- ▶ **New deacons** will be set aside for ministry next *Sunday 24th February*.
- ▶ **Fire drill** will take place next *Sunday 24th* Following the meeting (*approx. 1.15pm*)

Extra Services

If you have children with you, these are the facilities provided:

▶ Crèche and Pre-school Praise

Our crèche is based on the floor above the Meeting Room with baby changing facilities and toys to keep your young child occupied if they do not settle during the meeting. Parents are to attend to their children at all times. There is a short and simple pre-school Bible lesson during the sermon for 3-7 years old in the Crèche (as arranged).

▶ Sunday School

Our Sunday School is open to children of school going age and operates during the sermon in the Sunday School room on the top floor. Our teachers have a Bible story and songs prepared for your child(ren), teaching them the need for Salvation and Christian living.

Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD. (Psalm 34:11)

▶ Tea and Coffee

After the Sunday morning service, tea, coffee and light refreshments are available on the top floor in the Hospitality Room. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it (*Hebrews 13:2*).