



It's Personal

Genesis 12:1-3; 15:5-6; Matthew 18:1-4

Big Idea: Adults don't become followers of Christ by getting all their questions answered. In most instances, something happens that shrinks those questions. And that something is always personal. You don't have to understand everything to believe something.

Bottom Line: Salvation begins with God. He made the first move.

Introduction:

It's always bugged me when I hear married people talk about being committed to their marriages. I don't really want Kimberly to be committed to marriage. Even her marriage. I would like to think she is committed to **me**. And vice versa.

Marriage is so categorical. *Me* is personal.

Most of us didn't fall in love with marriage. We fell in love with a person.

There are many powerful categorical/relational arguments in opposition to embracing Jesus as one's personal Savior like surrendering one's entire life, relationships, money, whatever.

But adults don't usually embrace Jesus because they've resolved those arguments.

Adults embrace Jesus when somehow the discussion moves out of the realm of categorical to personal/relational.

Christianity is about relationship. You can't reason your way in.

That's how the whole thing started...

- For God so loved **the world**...
- For God so loved **you**...

For God so loved people that he did something intensely personal.

He revealed himself to a man...an ordinary man.

Truth:

Read: Genesis 12:1-3.

Three Promises:

1. You will be a great nation.
2. Your name will be great.
3. The whole world will be blessed through you.

God initiated a relationship with Abraham that changed everything!

Read: Genesis 15:5-6.

God initiated a relationship with Abraham based on faith (Abram believed the LORD – That's what faith means.)

Abraham didn't...

fully understand.

know why God allows evil to flourish.

understand his own insecurities and failures.

why his wife couldn't have children or why they had to move.

know how all this fits with the other religions of the world.

BUT...Abraham trusted anyway.

This is what people have been doing for generations.

Conclusion:

Most try to come to God on their terms. They say...show me, prove it, answer it, stop it, explain it, make sense of it.

The problem is we must come to God on His terms...trust Me.

Read: Matthew 18:1-3.

Application & Next Steps:

- Memorize Genesis 15:6
- Repent of Your Sin
- Put Your Faith in Jesus - Believe God
- Receive His Righteousness