PLEADING – TEXT: Genesis 18:16-33

A PRAYING SERVANT:

1) **CHOSEN by God for a RELATIONSHIP**: Genesis 18:17–18a
   a) **God's CONFIDANT**: Amos 3:7
   b) **God's FRIEND**: Isaiah 41:8. See also: 2 Chronicles 20:7
2) **CHOSEN by God to be a BLESSING**: Genesis 18:18b. See: Gen. 12:2-3
3) **CHOSEN to be HOLY (DIFFERENT & REPRESENTATIVE)**: Gen. 18:19
   - **Contrasted with SODOM & GOMORRAH (the WICKED, UNGODLY world):** Genesis 18:20–21
4) **We are God's CHOSEN, HOLY PEOPLE** (1 Peter 2:9); **FRIENDS & CONFIDANTS** (John 15:14–15). See also: John 14:26, 15:26; 16:7-15

A PRAYING SPIRIT:

1) **WAITS on and BEFORE GOD**: Genesis 18:22–23a
   a) **TRUSTING in God**: Hebrews 11:6
   b) **KNOWING our need for GRACE and MERCY**: Hebrews 4:16
2) **IMPLORES GOD to DEFEND and EXPAND the cause of the RIGHTEOUS**: Genesis 18:23
   a) **For JUSTICE and PEACE**: 1 Timothy 2:1–2
   b) **For the EXPANSION of the Gospel KINGDOM**: 2 Thess. 3:1. See also: Matthew 6:10; Colossians 4:3
   c) **For the EQUPPING and FRUITFULNESS of the SAINTS**: 2 Thessalonians 1:11. See also: Philemon 1:6
   d) **For REPENTANCE within the CHURCH**: 1 John 5:16. See also: James 5:15-18
3) **SEES and CRIES out for the SPIRITUALLY LOST:** Genesis 18:24
   a) **Do we SEE LOSTNESS?** John 4:35
   b) **Are we BROKEN-HEARTED for the LOST?** Romans 9:3, 10:1
   c) **Do we WEEP before God OVER the UNREACHED?** Luke 19:41–42 See also: Luke 13:34
   d) **Do we ASK God to send more Gospel WITNESSES?** Luke 10:2
4) **PERSISTS in prayer:** Genesis 18:28, 32. See also: v. 29-31; Luke 18:1; Romans 12:12; Colossians 4:2; 1 Thessalonians 5:17
5) **KNOWS and RESTS in God's CHARACTER:** Genesis 18:25. See also: Ezekiel 14:12-23
6) **ADMITS our own WEAKNESS and SPIRITUAL BROKENNESS:** Genesis 18:27
   a) **KNOWING we're ALL sinners in need of God's GRACE:** 1 Timothy 1:15. See also: Titus 3:3-8
   b) **ADMITTING our imperfect understanding of God's WILL and WORKS**: Romans 8:26
7) **SUBMITS to God's WILL:**
   a) **RESTING because we KNOW God's HEART:** 1 Timothy 2:3–4
   b) **WAITING**: Genesis 18:33
   c) **WATCHING**: Genesis 19:27–28
   d) **TRUSTING that God's PLAN is BEST**: Genesis 19:29; Psalm 145:17; Romans 8:28

A PRAYING SAVIOR:

1) **ONE true and perfect MEDIATOR for all of us**: 1 Timothy 2:5–6
   a) **He PRAYS for SINNERS**: Isaiah 53:12b
   b) **He FORGIVES our SIN**: Luke 23:34a. See also: Acts 7:60
   c) **He MEDIATES a NEW COVENANT relationship with God for the REDEEMED**: Hebrews 9:15. See also: Hebrews 12:24
2) **He DOES NOT CONDEMN but INTERCEDES (EVEN NOW) for US!** Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25. See also: Romans 8:1; 1 John 2:1

"Gospel In Life" questions for REFLECTION & APPLICATION

1) **BELIEVE:** WHAT TRUTHS did God REVEAL to me through His Word today about HIM and/or MYSELF?
2) **ASSESS:** HOW do these truths ENCOURAGE and/or CHALLENGE (convict) ME?
3) **PROCESS:** WHY is this message GOOD NEWS (GOSPEL) to ME today? (CONNECT the GOSPEL story to MY present story)
4) **CHANGE:** WHERE will I APPLY (BELIEVE, REPENT, DO) this message in MY own life this week?
5) **PROCLAIM:** WHO does God want ME to share these truths with?
6) **PREPARE for NEXT WEEK**: Read Genesis 19:1-38