

Prayerwalking



Taking Your Faith Into The Real World



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Prayerwalking In Faith

In **Genesis 13**, Abraham and Lot had to separate (**13:1-11**). Abraham and Lot's families had grown so large that the land could not support them. Strife had developed between the herdsmen of these two relatives.

Abraham did not want the strife to develop into open conflict. Because of this, he graciously gave Lot the choice of any part of the land that he wanted. Lot chose the well-watered and fertile plain of Jordan and traveled east.

After Lot left, God gave a gracious promise to Abraham. What did God promise to Abraham? **Genesis 13:14-16** records the answer:

"After Lot had separated from him, the LORD said to Abram, 'Look from the place where you are. Look north and south, east and west, for I will give you and your offspring forever all the land that you see. I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust of the earth, then your offspring could be counted.'"

God promised to give Abraham the entirety of the land, "north and south, east

and west." At the same time, He would multiply Abram's descendants so that they would be like the dust of the earth. What a gracious promise!

When God gave this gracious promise, He also called on Abraham to do two things. The first thing is found in **Genesis 13:14**. Abraham was to "look" - to examine the land. The second command is found in **Genesis 13:17**, "Get up and walk around the land, through its length and width, for I will give it to you." Abram was to sojourn through the entirety of the land.

In response to God's gracious promise, Abram was to do two things. He was to look at the land in every direction and then to walk throughout the entire length and width of the land. He was to examine the whole land - the land that God was going to give him. His responsibility was to look at the land and to trust God and His promise.

God's commands to Abraham were not simply for sightseeing or for physical exercise. This was a call to faith. It was a call to exercise trust in God and in His promise. His commands to Abraham

called for Abraham to walk in faith throughout the whole land.

It's crucial to remember that the Canaanites inhabited this land, north and south, east and west. When Abram sojourned through this land as God commanded, everywhere he turned, he saw Canaanites. He encountered kings, princes, armed forces, and fortified cities.

Yet, God called him to walk in faith. Abraham was to exercise faith in spite of what he saw. He had to walk in faith rather than by his sight or his feeling. In spite of all the obstacles that he saw standing in the way of God's promise, Abraham was to believe what God had promised.

Abraham also had to trust God for what God would do in this land. God had promised, "I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust of the earth, then your offspring could be counted" (**Genesis 13:17**). This is an amazing promise, especially in light of Abram's current situation. At this point, Abram was childless (**Genesis 15**). Here's a man who has no children and God tells him that his descendants will be like the dust of the earth. Abram had to trust God's promise in spite of what he saw at the time.

What insights does this text give us for prayerwalking? We can receive the following insights:

- *God is the giving God.*
This text shows us that God is the giving God. God promised to give Canaan to Abram and his descendants. Now I realize that this promise is

unique to Abram. I'm not saying that we can use this text to claim any place. Yet, I believe that there is a principle that we need to see here. God desires to bless His people and to use them where they are. He will accomplish His purposes for His people wherever they are. He longs for us to believe His promises and to walk in faith where we are. He will give His salvation, His blessing, His healing, and His transformation through us to those around us. We are to worship Him as the giving God - willing to bless us where we are and to use us where we are. We are to praise Him for being the promise making and the promise keeping God.

- *God calls us to walk by faith.*
In this text, God called Abram to trust Him. God gave him promises and He had to believe God for the fulfillment of them. The same is true for us. This is especially applicable to our prayerwalking. God has promised to hear us when we pray. He has promised to work as we seek Him. He is able to do above and beyond what we ask of Him. When we prayerwalk, we have to trust this. When we walk and pray, we must have confidence in God's power and promises. Prayerwalking without faith in God and His promises is futile. It is empty. We must believe that God will save, heal, bless, and transform as we walk and pray in faith. If we desire to receive from Him, we must believe Him and His promises.

- *We must focus on God and not the obstacles.*

God gave Abram these gracious promises. Yet, as we have already seen, there were two major obstacles: the Canaanites filled the land and Abram was childless. Yet, Abram had to focus on God. He could not look at the obstacles. He had to look to God who was able to do what He promised, "Because he was fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform" (**Romans 4:21**). This has implications for our prayerwalking. We cannot look at the obstacles in our communities and cities. There are a whole host of barriers to the gospel and God's transformation in our areas. It would be easy to focus only on this. Yet, we have to lift our eyes to the God who is able to save, heal, deliver, bless, and transform. God is able! God is able! God is able! We must focus on Him and His ability to work in powerful ways. God calls on us to trust in Him as we prayerwalk.

- *We must look with eyes of faith on our communities and cities.*

It's interesting in this text that God commands Abram to "Look from the place you are" (**Genesis 13:14**). This meant more than just looking with physical eyes. It was a call to look with spiritual eyes – to see that God had a purpose there and that Abram was part of it. God calls us to do the same. We are called to look beyond the four walls of the church to "see" the community or city around us. What is it that God

wants to do in your area? We must pray for Him to open our eyes for His purpose in our areas. As you prayerwalk, call on God to guide you in how He wants you to pray and how He wants you to minister. Look, walk, and pray!

Prayerwalking Your Home

One of the most powerful ways that you can pray for your family is by prayerwalking your house. This spiritual exercise can invigorate your praying for your family. It can also help you to cover your family with intercession.

You may be wondering, "How do I prayerwalk my house?" When you prayerwalk, you pray according to what you see, smell, hear, and feel. This is something that you can do in your home. As you walk through your house, talk to God about what you see, smell, hear, and feel. Base your praise and petitions on these things as you move throughout your home.

You can prayerwalk your home in two basic ways. One way is to pray on a daily basis. This means praying for your family as you go through your daily routine (**1 Thessalonians 5:17**). As you go through your regular routine, pray specific and pointed prayers for your family.

You might also consider doing a periodic prayerwalk of your house. During this time, you intentionally walk and pray through your house. It is a set time when you go through the entirety of your house or apartment, praying specifically for your family. During these

times, you could involve the whole family. It would be an ideal time to teach your children about prayerwalking.

The following are some suggestions on how you could prayerwalk your house:

The kitchen - Pray that your family will hunger for God's Word and will be filled with its truth.

A bed - Ask that the family member would learn to rest in Christ and trust Him regardless.

A bathtub or shower - Plead that the members of your family will confess and forsake sin and will experience the cleansing of Jesus' blood.

A closet - Ask that your family will have a spirit of prayer and will have a quiet time with God.

A thermostat - Pray that your family will be on fire for God and that they will not be lukewarm.

A clock - Plead that your family will not waste time but will be diligent in serving God until Christ returns.

The front door - Ask that evil influences will be kept out of your home and that only righteous influences will be allowed.

The doorbell - Pray that your family will be sensitive to hear and obey the voice of God.

These suggestions are offered to you to help you get started prayerwalking your home. These are only suggestions that can help you see the variety of ways that you can prayerwalk your home. These are offered just to help you get started. As you prayerwalk, you will receive many other insights that you can use to intercede for your home. Prayerwalk your home and cling to **Galatians 6:9!**

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