

27 November 2016

God waits for me to take the initiative, because He wants me to have

..... **18:1-8**

If anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? 1 John 3:17

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. Eph.1:3
Whatever is true; whatever is honourable... Philipians 4:8-9

God allows me to laugh at His plans, because He wants me to have

..... **18:9-15**

FEAR: Evidence Appearing Real

God wants me to argue with Him, because He wants me to have

..... **18:16-33**

My prayer focus for this week

For personal reflection or group discussion

1. Have you ever prayed earnestly for something, but it didn't happen, and you were left wondering what God was doing? On reflection, do you now know why things turned out differently than you had hoped?
2. If you were to help God make some changes, what are the top 3 issues you would tell Him to address?
3. Abraham was pretty generous with the feast he prepared (v.6-7). In what ways can I be generous to God?
4. Why did Sarah laugh (v12)? God already knew the answer, so why did He ask why she laughed (v14)? What question do you think God would like to ask you?
5. What did Sarah feel (v15)? Why did she feel that way? What were the consequences of that feeling? In what circumstance might it be right to feel that way before God? How does the Gospel help overcome that feeling?
6. What words describe Abraham's attitude in v22-33? When Abraham went back home and told Sarah about the 'conversation' he had with God, how do you think he may have felt? In what ways would that debrief have helped Sarah's faith? In what ways does it help my faith?

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