

Episode 006- God's Covenant:

Genesis 15:1-21

- Describe a time when you had to get yourself out of a tough situation. How did you do it?
- Now describe a time when you were in a tough situation but couldn't get yourself out of it.
 - o Why couldn't you get yourself out?
 - **o** Who got you out of that situation?

Each of us faces an impossibly tough situation. We are trapped in our sin, deserving nothing but God's wrath and punishment here on earth and forever in hell.

- What kinds of things does the world say you must do to earn your salvation?
- What things are you tempted to do to effect your own salvation?
- Why do these things always fail to set us free?

Since we fail no matter how hard we try, it is clear we can never satisfy God and free ourselves from His wrath. So in mercy and undeserved grace God sent His Son to set us free. Jesus bound Himself to His covenant, and in His perfect sacrifice, suffered God's wrath and died in our place on the cross.

- What other things do Christians think they have to add to Christ's sacrifice to save themselves from hell?
- How do we sometimes distort faith that accepts Christ's sacrifice into a human work by which we save ourselves?

As you think of Christ's salvation, picture Abraham sleeping soundly while God alone passes through the parts of the animals. In the same way your salvation rests completely in Jesus' hands, there is nothing you can do or need to do. That is why He said on the cross, "It is finished" (John 19:30b).

• How does it feel to know you are not responsible for earning your salvation?