

SERIES TITLE: OBSTACLES TO GOD'S PROMISES

PART 6: Relapses

TEXT: GENESIS 20

INTRODUCTION.

As we continue studying through Genesis, we follow the life of Abraham, the great Patriarch. After receiving astounding promises from God, Abraham is faced with one obstacle after another. There is much we can learn from the man, because all of us deal with similar obstacles in our own lives.

DISCUSSION.

When have you repeated the same mistake twice?

EXAMINATION.

- 20:1-7 What kind of man does Abimelech seem to be?
- 20:8-13 How do Abraham's excuses strike you?
- 20:14-18 Why does Abraham profit from this deception?
- Do you think Abimelech is making a point by using the word "brother" v.16?
- How can Abraham possibly be an effective man of prayer in this situation?

APPLICATION.

- What factors can contribute to someone repeating the same sin over and over?
- When and how should repentance play a role in our spiritual lives?
- There are two extremes when it comes to sin:
 - 1) Thinking we are immune from temptation and too mature to fall.
 - 2) Believing that since God forgives and we cannot attain perfection in this life, we just live in sin.How do we navigate those two extremes? What is the biblical response?
- How could Abraham's ability to minister to Abimelech encourage you to minister to others?

- What impact could your readiness to repent have on your family? Friends? Church?
- Fact: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What are you going to do?