

God's Guidance and Providence

Scripture: Genesis 21:1-7; 22:1-19

Also: Galatians 3:28-29

Questions

1. What has challenged you, changed you or confused you from this week's sermon or the Scriptures in it?
2. Have you ever been lost? Did you ask for directions, use GPS, just figure it out, or something else?
3. What is it like to be in a position where you need guidance?
4. What does it take to ask for guidance? (Humility, a recognition of one's need, a willingness to admit that "I don't know", etc.)
5. What do you do when you ask for guidance from God, but He doesn't seem to answer? (Ask for wisdom, ask others for counsel, weigh options according to Scripture, make a decision, wait, trust, etc.)
6. Providence was talked about in the sermon; it can be defined as the protective care of God.
 - o How do you see God's providence working...
 - o ...In the life of someone like Joseph (Genesis 37-50)?
 - o ...In the life of Judas?
 - o How have you seen his protective care in your life? In others' lives?
 - o How do you balance human freedom and responsibility with God's providence?
 - o Read Romans 8:28. How does this verse connect to divine providence?
7. Can you trust God without understanding all of the details of how providence functions, or knowing how your life will work out.

One of the application points of the sermon was that Abraham cares about his son's future. Take some time to pray for those closest to you. Pray for their salvation, welfare, spouse, future, etc. This may also be a good time to think through present circumstances in your life, and choose (again) to trust God while you do not know the future.