



GOSPEL COMMUNITIES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. Review Gospel Appointment documents and distribute people to follow-up with from planning center.**
- 2. Volunteering** — You can make a difference in the lives of others by sharing your gifts and talents here at Soma. Each week volunteers minister to others with the love and hope of Jesus Christ. Whatever your interests are, there is a place for you to serve with Soma's Volunteer Ministries.
 - SomaKids
 - Setup and Teardown
 - WhizKids
 - First Impressions
 - Audio/ Visual
 - Music
- 3. Planning Center** — **PLEASE** setup your Planning Center account ASAP so we can best communicate with and honor you as our volunteers. Go to planningcenteronline.com, connect to our church, and sign up for text alerts.
- 4. Covenant Membership** - Church membership is a covenant relationship. We're accountable to God & one another. Worship attendance, service, communion, the ministry of the Word, submission to elders, & holiness aren't arbitrary requirements of membership but mandatory commands of Jesus. If you want to join Soma come to our class!
- 2pm; Sunday July 14th!
- 5. Baptism** - Baptism is a clear command of the Lord Jesus Christ for all believers. This is why it is one of the ordinances of the Christian Church (the Lord's Supper being the other). Believer baptism in water reflects a prior inward cleansing (1 Pet. 3:21) when the person was born again (Jn. 3:3, 5), made a new creation in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17), and offers an opportunity for this new believer to profess faith in the Lord Jesus Christ publicly. If you want to be baptized please go to somajc.org/membership/baptism/
- Sunday August 18th during the Sunday gathering

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. If we were to look around our country, where can we see the hand of God blessing us? Is it in the wealth and power? Is that consistent with Biblical truth?
2. God called Abram to obedience. To follow Him beyond what he could see. God told him He would show him a land. He did not say He would give it to him nor did He say what it was. Any applications here in your life?
3. Abram's faith is remembered in Heb. 11. This should remind us all that it is by faith that we can only please God. Some read this as for Abram's sake he had to leave His father's house. It was his comfort zone, what he knew, or what could have tempted or pulled Him down the easiest. Luke 14:26 speaks about how our love for God in comparison to our love for our family should be seen as "hatred". We must love God that much more and be willing to leave what we know for what He has promised.
 - a. Share a time when you had a similar situation to obey God like Abram did. What were your hesitations if any and what made you act out in obedience?
4. What Land do you need to leave in order to obey God?
 - a. Is it friends, family, relationships, a job, a place, a comfortable sin, etc...? Lack of faith and obedience in God is holding you back. Stop making lame excuses and get off your tail.
5. We must always remember when God makes a promise He will come through 100% of the time. Sometimes the way in which he fulfills promises in our life may not be our way, but our ways are not His ways, His are infinitely better. How can this be applied to your life, to your family relationships, your friends, and your ministry?
6. The journey of faith that Abram was called to travel was quite an adventure (thousands of miles into foreign land). What journey of faith is calling you to take?
7. Like Lot many of us give in to our selfish desires that have been born in us. At the moment we chose what is best to satisfy our flesh without seeing down the road. We may even refuse to look ahead because we were so selfish. Selfishness is not godliness and it can only lead to destruction. A destruction that may cost much more than we had imagined.
 - a. Examine your life. Where are you fooling yourself in the area of selfish choices?
 - b. Where have you hardened your convictions and given into that dangerous slope of compromise? Get real with yourself and kill your selfishness before you and others get destroyed.
8. Think for 30 sec of a conflict you have with someone, now ask yourself, have you done everything possible to resolve it? Stop just reading about the great examples of

humility and meekness and put them into practice. Put your desires aside, be an example, and don't worry about what people will say about you. Remember we should be living to please God and not man.

9. We've all heard the saying, "everything that looks good to you is not good for you. Prov. 14:12: "There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death" From the very first sin until now man has been deceived by what is pleasing to the eyes. Due to our strong and sometimes overpowering desires of our flesh and it's quest for instant gratification, we are blinded to the potential dangers and sometimes deadly consequences. Never underestimate our sinful nature, but also know that when we allow God to take control of our mind, body and soul the battle in most cases is easier. The next time you are enticed by something pleasing to your eyes, stop, think and count the cost. Is there an area in your life that you are being blinded by your fleshly/worldly desires? If not praise God. Ask God right now to remove it or remove you!