

small group QUESTIONS

Your response to the sermon

Looking at your notes, talk through the 10 steps of the Covenant-making ceremony in the Ancient Near Eastern culture in which the Bible was written. In what way does understanding these 10 steps help you to understand the Bible today?

The story of your life

In what ways did the sermon impact you personally? Which one(s) of the 10 steps most affected your thinking? Which of the 10 steps most affected your thinking regarding your personal life with Christ? What did Jim Garlow say about the reason that Abraham had fallen into a "deep sleep" (Gen. 15:12)? What was the application of that regarding Christ on the Cross?

Venturing Further

Look into this collection of verses together to see the examples of the Covenant-making ceremony. Review how these verses are actually steps in the Covenant ceremony:

Genesis 15:7-10, 17-18 – Animal Cut in Two; Walk Between Halves

Genesis 17:1, 6-7, 10-11 – Mark on The Body (Circumcision)

Deuteronomy 28:1-23, 25-28, 38 – Pronouncement Of Blessings And Curses

Jeremiah 34:18-20; 7:33 – Animal Cut; Walk of Death

1 Samuel 17:3-4, 26, 33-39, 45 – Uncircumcised – Not Part of The Covenant

1 Samuel 18:1-4 – Exchange of Robe, Belts, Weapons

Living it Out

Covenant partners belong to each other. They no longer "own" themselves. They are forever blended as one with the covenant partner. If you are a follower of Jesus, you did not merely make a "decision" for Christ. Your very identity is now wrapped up as one with His. What does that mean for how you respond each day, what you say and do?