

Thoughts on Grief

Session 6 – Faith Still Speaks

How has your loved one's words or actions affected you? How about others? What will be remembered of their faith or love?

Do you recall who the first person in the Bible was to die?

In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell...Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. (Genesis 4:3-5, 8 ESV)

Now let's go to the other end of the Bible to see what it has to say after all this time.

By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. (Hebrews 11:4 ESV)

Abel's faith was still remembered by God and talked about by others hundreds and now thousands of years later. Let's take a look at another example.

... a woman came with an alabaster flask of ointment of pure nard, very costly, and she broke the flask and poured it over his head... "this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor." And they scolded her. But Jesus said, "Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She had done a beautiful thing to me...And truly, I say to you, wherever the gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her." (Mark 14:3, 5-6, 9 ESV)

As you have just read, her actions of faith and love are told once again.