

Bible Study: Wednesday February 24, 2021
Sermon: Sunday, February 28, 2021
Scripture: Genesis 17:1 -7; 15-16; Mark 8: 27 -38

Questions for Reflection & Discussion:

- Remember other people in the Bible whose names were changed by God. What might cause God to change a person's name? If God changed your name, what would the new one be and why?
- "... [Jesus] sternly corrected Peter: "Get behind me, Satan. You are not thinking God's thoughts but human thoughts." Take a few moments to think about what Peter might have said. Is it wrong to have human thoughts? What might have made Peter's "human thoughts" so bad that Jesus rebuked him in this manner? How many of us might have reacted the same as Peter and gotten called out by Jesus?
- What things might we need to call out that are getting in the way of God's will or God's plans for our lives, for our church, and for our community?
- There are 5 questions in our baptismal vows (taken by parents on behalf of an infant who is being baptized and later by the person upon confirmation or when "joining" the church). The first question in these vows is: *Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?* What are some spiritual forces of wickedness at work in the world today?
- Jesus said, "All who want to come after me must say no to themselves, take up their cross, and follow me." What things might we need to say no to in order to move God's plans forward?