

Week 2 | *The Story* Sunday Morning Discussion Group

God has a plan to get his people back

God picks an unlikely pair...Abraham and Sarah give birth to a son, Isaac

Abraham is tested...will he give God his best?

The significance of Mount Moriah in the Old and New Testaments

Discussion questions:

1. Many of the people God called to follow him and do great things had excuses or reasons they thought God could not use them. What are some of the common excuses people still use today when they want to get out of following God's leading for their life?
2. When God called Abram to follow him, there was a clear sense of partnership. God promised to do specific things and also called Abram to do his part (Genesis 12:1-5, *The Story*, p.13). What was God's part and what was Abram's part in this great adventure?
3. What do you learn about Abraham and Sarah's faith from Hebrews 11:8-9 (a summary of *The Story*, pp.13-20)?
4. Tell about an older person in your life who has been a model of faith and love for God. How have you seen their life impact the lives of others and yours?
5. Abraham and Sarah were called by God and they followed him in faith. Tell about a time God called you to take a step of faith. How did you respond and how did that step of faith turn out?
6. Sarah did not think God was moving fast enough with the whole "nation building project". So, she decided to help God by giving her handmaid to Abraham to bear a child for her. Give some examples of ways we jump ahead of God's timing for our lives in an effort to "help" him. Tell about a time that God said, "Wait", but you wanted to rush ahead. Why is it so hard to be patient and wait on God's will for our lives?
7. Abraham and Sarah chose to follow God by faith and trust that he would build a nation through them—and he did. What step of faith is God calling you to take now, but you are still waiting or even resisting? What can you do to take a trust-filled step and move forward in their area of your life?

Homework for this week: Abraham took what was most precious to him and surrendered it to God. He would not hold back even his own son. Make a list of five to ten things that mean a great deal to you. One by one, offer them to God. If it is a person, surrender that loved one to the Lord. If it is a material thing, let God know that he has full access to it. If it is a talent or ability, tell God you will use it for him. Take everything and freely offer it back to the One who gave you all you have.

For next week: Read chapter 3 of *The Story*.