SMALL GROUP

D LESSON 1.3: ABRAHAM AND SARAH

STUDENTS STUDIED:

- » Genesis 12–15
- » Genesis 16
- » Genesis 17
- » Hebrews 11

ADDITIONAL READING:

- » Acts 4:12
- » John 3:16

STUDENTS MEMORIZED AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING VERSES:

- » Hebrews 11:8–10*
- » Romans 4:16
- » James 2:23

Students Learned the Following Definitions:

ABRAHAMIC COVENANT: God's covenant with Abraham that his descendants would become a great nation and have a land of their own. God promised to bless those who blessed Abraham and curse those who cursed him. All the nations of the earth would be blessed through Him. That blessing for the world is Jesus, our Savior (Genesis 12–17).

HEROES OF FAITH CHAPTER: placed in Hebrews 11; sometimes called the "Hall of Faith" or "Heroes of Faith" chapter. The author of Hebrews reminds us that many people have gone before us and lived by faith. Some of those mentioned are well known like Moses and Abraham, but some are unnamed women and men who were beaten, imprisoned or killed because of their faith.

LESSON 1	LESSON 2	LESSON 3	LESSON 4
Students learned God's promises should be trusted.	Students observed what happens when people fall away from faith.	Students witnessed the identity change that comes from following God.	Students looked at the impact they can have when they live out their God-given identity.
They read the story of God calling Abram and the promises He made to Abram. Then they thought about the promises God makes to all people through His Word.	They considered how Abram and Sarai took matters into their own hands. They also saw the pain that occurs when trying to do things without God.	They read about God giving Abraham and Sarah new names associated with the promises He made them. They learned God has plans for our lives, but we must have faith to follow Him.	They explored the New Testament references to Abraham and Sarah in Hebrews 11. They saw how Abraham and Sarah's faith in God impacted the people around them during their lifetime, as well as those who lived much later.

SMALL GROUP

IDENTITY INSIGHT:

God does not need my help to accomplish His will but calls me to faithful obedience. When I believe in God's promises and live according to His Word, He transforms my identity and uses my faith as a weathervane to point others to Him.

Students circled which verse they chose to memorize.

HEBREWS 11:8-10*

ROMANS 4:16

JAMES 2:23

DISCUSSION

SHARE

Discuss how the promises of God are different from human promises. Share one possible answer and invite students to share their answers.

ASK

Explain why Abraham and Sarah might have had a hard time believing God's promise to them. Talk about why they should have trusted God no matter what earthly challenges they saw ahead and ask students, "How can you faithfully trust God's promises to you?"

♠ ACT

Invite students to share ways they can live differently from the world by trusting in God's promises. Ask them how they plan to put their thoughts into actions and invite them to share with the group.

TEACHING NOTES:																																																														
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