

Abraham Part 2: Faith Tested, Faith Fulfilled. Hebrews 11:11-19. Gen 21-23.

Life Group Questions

1) God keeps long-delayed promises (Gen 21:1–7; Heb 11:11–12)

What do these verses emphasise about who enabled Sarah/Abraham and when God acted? What does that teach about God's timing and faith?

2) A hard family conflict (Gen 21:8–21)

What feels uncomfortable or confusing in this section? What do you notice about God's care for Hagar and Ishmael even in the middle of Abraham's family pain?

3) God's guidance in messy situations (Gen 21:12–13, 17–20)

Where do you see God speaking and acting? What does this passage suggest about God's ability to keep promises while also caring for people affected by our decisions?

4) The costliest test (Gen 22:1–2)

Why do you think God tests Abraham after Isaac is born? What makes this command so severe, and what questions would you bring to God if you were Abraham?

5) Faith expressed in action (Gen 22:3–10; Heb 11:17–19)

What details show Abraham's deliberate obedience (not impulsive emotion)? According to Hebrews, what was Abraham believing about God even in this moment?

6) Testing and Temptation

In Genesis 22 God tests Abraham, James 1:13 says God never tempts anyone to sin, and 1 Peter 1:3–7 says trials refine faith like fire refines gold—so how can you tell whether a difficult situation is a faith-refining test (meant to deepen trust and obedience) versus a temptation (pulling you toward sin), and what response does each passage suggest you should make?

7) God's provision (Gen 22:11–14)

What does "The LORD will provide" mean in context? How is God's provision sometimes different from what we expect (timing, method, outcome)?

8) Renewed promise and wider blessing (Gen 22:15–18; Heb 11:12)

What does God re-state or deepen after the test? How does this connect to God's bigger purpose to bless the nations (not just Abraham's private life)?

9) Strangers and Exiles

Hebrews 11:13–16 says they saw God's promises "from a distance" and admitted they were "foreigners and strangers on earth." What would change in your priorities or choices this week (money, career, relationships, comfort, time) if you consciously lived as a "stranger and exile" who is seeking a better, heavenly country?