



Discussion Guide

Section #9: ABRAHAM: A MAN OF FAITH

Read to the Group: When we look back at this history in the Bible, we saw that God was faithful to His promise to Abraham.

Group Questions:

1. In the story about Abraham in what ways did Abraham show faith and obedience?
2. In what ways did he show lack of faith?

Read to the Group: Abraham showed faith by going to the location of God's choice. Abraham was a man of wealth and position, but he was willing to follow God to a new land, even though others may have ridiculed him for following God in a new direction.

Leader Information: Remind them that faith has been important in all of the stories we have seen. Noah built an ark because of his faith. Abel offered a lamb because of his belief in God's instructions.

Read to the Group: Although Abraham was a man of faith, he was also human. At times he made poor choices and sinned, but he always returned to worship and believe in God and the promise of a Deliverer. It is because of that Deliverer that Abraham, and we as well, can have a relationship with God.

Leader Information: (Show the Bridge Illustration again, but this time put a cross over the name of Christ.)

Read this Scripture to the Group:

“By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles



Show the Following Segment from the *God's Story* video:

“Now about 400 years after” (Abraham with hands raised)... through... “Whom they named Isaac” (Second shot of grey haired Sarah holding Isaac)
3 minutes, 20 seconds



with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God” (Hebrews 11:8-10).

Group Questions:

1. Can we see or can you imagine any consequences of Abraham's lack of obedience by his choice to have a child by Hagar?
2. Do we sometimes forget to consider the potential long-range consequences of our so-called “personal” sin?

Leader Information: Historically, we can see a consequence of Abraham's lack of obedience. The Arab nation, which descends from Abraham through Hagar, has always been in conflict with the Jewish nation which descends from Abraham through Isaac. They still argue over the inheritance. Although it isn't mentioned in the video, in addition there were personal consequences, such as jealousy between Hagar and Sarah.

Read to the Group: The Bible says that,

“By faith Abraham, even though he was past the age of producing children, and Sarah, his wife, who was barren and past child-bearing, were both enabled to become parents because they considered God faithful who had made the promise” (Hebrews 11:11).

Transition Statement: It is refreshing to once again see the life of a man who trusted God. Even though Abraham is not perfect, he seems to be trying. Let's look at one more part of Abraham's life now (*or* next time when we meet).