

Grace Group Discussion Guide

For the week of February 10 - 16, 2019

Main Thought and Passages:

"By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. ¹¹By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore." (Hebrews 11:8-12 ESV)

- Faith is trusting God enough to do what He says. Abraham trusted God and obeyed by leaving his home to go to the land that God would later show him.
- As he took those first steps of faith, God showed him the next steps along the way.

"And he brought him (Abraham) outside and said, 'Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your offspring be.'" (Genesis 15:5 ESV)

- Abraham focused on the promise of God to motivate him to persevere in faith.

"And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end, ¹²so that you may not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises...¹⁵And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise." (Hebrews 6:11-12, 15 ESV)

- Abraham and Sarah mixed faith with patience, persevered, and obtained God's promise.

Reflection:

- What stands out to you from the main passages and thoughts above as it pertains to persevering in faith?
- Why do you think mixing faith with patience, and focusing on God's promises is necessary to persevere? Share a time when you experienced this in your life.

Application:

- What promise from God are you currently waiting for? What practical steps can you take to persevere as you wait?

Prayer:

- Pray for one another to stay focused on God, to mix faith with patience, and to persevere as we wait for His promises to be fulfilled.