



FIRST LIGHT CHURCH

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

Date: 5/12/2024

Series: Abraham

Text: Genesis 21: 1-7

BIG IDEA: God's Promises Are Always Fulfilled.

ICEBREAKER: If you could eliminate one thing from your daily routine, what would it be and why?

CONTEXT: God's promise to Sarah from Genesis chapter 18 is being fulfilled at this time, which is a year later. Sarah had not believed God then and even laughed at first when she was told she would have a son. Now, we can read that God's promise to Sarah was literally taking place and that her laughter was from joy, not disbelief. Abraham was faithful to the covenant condition of circumcision as God's plan finally came to fruition in the miraculous birth of their son, Isaac.

PASSAGE: Have volunteers read Genesis 21: 1-7.

DISCUSSION:

1. What do the following phrases from this passage: ...“as He had said”.../ ...“as He had promised”.../ ...“at the time of which God had spoken to him”.../ ...“as God had commanded him”... reveal about God's character?
2. Do you think that our obedience, or lack thereof, affects God's plans? Why or why not?
3. Has God ever intervened in your seemingly impossible situation? How?
4. Why do we sometimes doubt the faithfulness of God's Word?

APPLICATION:

5. What does obedience to God's will and plan, which is revealed to us in His Word, say about the condition of our heart? Read 1 John 2:3-6 and discuss.
6. Why does God promise to fulfill the desires of our hearts if He doesn't seem to really give us exactly what we desire? Read Psalm 37:4-6, 1 John 5:14, John 15:7 and discuss.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION:

It is difficult for people to earnestly desire something and not be able to attain that which they want or to not have what they feel that they truly need. Humans can reason why it should happen; people can even pray about it and do many things to try to make it happen. When that “something” doesn't come about in the way that they feel that it should, or it doesn't happen in time, or never happens, they are often left feeling bitter, sad, and unsatisfied. It is during these moments that people can even blame God and become angry with Him. How do we comfort someone during one of these moments? How does our light shine? Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 and pray about how to be the voice of truth and encouragement to someone who is struggling.

CARE AND PRAY:

- Ask God to forgive you for not fully trusting in Him and for not obeying His Word. .
- Ask God to help you to be a comfort to someone who is going through a really tough situation. Pray for Godly wisdom.
- Pray for the upcoming events within the life of our church, such as: Family Highlight, Kids Camp, Student Life Camp, Super Summer, and VBS.