

LIVING BEYOND

WHEN THE WORLD DOESN'T

DISCUSSION GUIDE

MAIN IDEA: Sometimes stepping out in faith involves waiting.

WELCOME 10 MINUTES

What was the hardest thing you have had to wait for?

WORSHIP 10 MINUTES

Sometimes waiting is painful. Sometimes sitting in the pain of waiting is how God shapes us. Play the song New Wine by Hillsong Worship. Listen to the words and reflect on them as they have played out in your life. Close your time by asking God to help you have faith in the seasons of waiting.

WORD 35 MINUTES

Our fall series on Hebrews 11 will cover numerous Old Testament stories. So while our weekly discussion will unpack Hebrews 11 and the weekend message, let's also commit to reading God's word before meeting together so we have a fresh view of the whole story.

1. Read Hebrews 11:8-12. What do you notice about how Hebrews summarizes Abraham's life?
2. Read Genesis 12:1-3. What are the three blessings given to Abraham (Abram)?
3. How did God turn Abraham's descendants into a great nation?
4. How did God bless the entire world through Abraham's descendants?

5. At first, Abraham didn't see how God was going to do all of this, but we can see it now that we know the whole story. How has God led you into situations where you didn't see what he was doing, but after the perspective of time passed, you could see why he did what he did?
6. Read Genesis 12:4 and 16:1-16. Waiting is hard, and we like to take shortcuts. How old was Abraham (Abram) when he shortcut God's plan and it ended with the messy situation of Hagar and Ishmael?
7. How have you been tempted to shortcut God's plan in your life?
8. Read Genesis 12:4 and 21:5. How many years passed between the promise and when God fulfilled the promise?
9. In your life, where have you seen God bless you in ways that seemed unbelievable?
10. Are you currently in a period of waiting for God to move? How can we pray for you in this area?

WORKS 15 MINUTES

1. Serve as a group. We have a number of great serving opportunities through the next week. Connect with the Outreach team to reserve your spot on a project.
2. Daily Devotion: Read Genesis 22-24 in preparation for next week's message and group discussion.