

# SMALL GROUPS

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### Winter Semester - Week 10

---

*Remember, these questions are just tools for discussion. You don't need to 'get through them all'. Use the questions that are helpful, skip the ones that are not, and let the conversation flow naturally.*

#### OPTIONAL ICEBREAKER(S)

- a) Share a memory of a peaceful time in your life.
- b) Share the best deal you've ever gotten through bartering.

#### PASSAGE AND DISCUSSION

##### Read Genesis 23

- a) What stands out to you upon first reading of this passage?
- b) Read **Isaiah 51:1-2, 1 Peter 3:3-6, and Hebrews 11:11**. Sarah's faith journey has many highs and lows. Can you relate? What can we learn from her example of faith?
- c) On Sunday, Cam said, "We are not simply the sum of our worst days." When you trust in God, He is your righteousness. How does this truth encourage your heart?
- d) Abraham grieved the loss of his wife Sarah. Grief is not a sign of unfaithfulness, it is a part of being human. How can we walk through grief or sorrow as a community as opposed to being isolated?
- e) What is the significance of Abraham buying the field in Hebron (his first time owning land in the Promised Land)?
- f) Land meant home, and by God's grace this land would be their home and the home of their descendants. Why is it significant that Sarah was not returned to Ur to be buried, but was instead buried in this new location?
- g) How does the idea of 'ownership' apply to us today as members of the church which we attend (and as the Church as a whole)?
- h) If you are considering becoming a member of Grant, but remain undecided, what is holding you back?

- i) Why should we support the ministries of Grant with our tithes and offerings? What is the spiritual implication of giving to the church? **Read Matthew 6:21**. What is the connection between our hearts and our wallets?
- j) How do you feel you could use your gifts to serve within the Body of Christ, the church? Are you currently serving or do you feel like this is an area which you could grow more in?
- k) What would it mean to be a 'stakeholder' in the church, as opposed to merely being a 'user'?
- l) Read **Genesis 12:1 and Hebrews 11:9-12**. What is the eternal nature of the promise that God gave to Abraham earlier in his life? What does it mean to live by faith like Abraham and Sarah?
- m) Read **Mark 12:27**. What does this verse mean in the context of God's promise to Abraham? Discuss the phrase 'God of the living'.
- n) Is there anything else that stood out to you as significant in the text and / or the message on Sunday?

### **TAKE IT HOME (OPTIONAL IDEAS FOR RESPONSE THIS WEEK)**

- a) If you're unsure of what your spiritual gifts are and how you could use them to serve within the church, take some time to consider and pray about it. It could be helpful to ask others what gifts they see in you. It may also be beneficial to take an online survey as a starting point as you navigate this.
- b) Take some time to discuss your church involvement with your family. What are they thinking about how to take ownership within the church? What would the next steps look like?

### **OPTIONAL IDEAS FOR PRAYER TIME**

- a) Pray for the people who attend Grant. Pray that more people will become involved and active within the church community. Pray that our church will be welcoming to all, and that Christ's love would be felt in and through the church.
- b) Pray for those in our community (and your group) who are grieving.