

## Abraham & Sarah (week 4: Unconditional Promise)

### Scripture Reading: Genesis 15:1-18

#### Discussion Questions

1. This is the fourth week of our teaching series focused on Abraham and Sarah. The story of Abraham and Sarah takes up the majority of Genesis chapter eleven through twenty-five. Today's reading is Genesis 15:1-18, take time to read it for yourself. What stands out to you as you read?
2. Here in chapter 15 God restates His two-part covenant partnership with Abram. First, God says He will give Abram many descendants. Second, God will give this land to Abram's descendants. God has already made these promises to Abram and Sari in previous chapters. However, their childlessness and age gave them reasons to doubt. Have you ever doubted God's promises for you? How did you behave during that time? How did you regain your faith in the promises of God?
3. In the ancient world when such covenant partnerships were made both parties would walk through a series of animals that were cut in half. This was done as if to say that if they didn't live up to their end of the agreement, they would suffer the same fate. What do you think is significant about God being the only one to go through the animals here?
4. This one-sided covenant partnership, that asks a lot of God and almost nothing of Abram, reminds me of how God interacts with us as disciples of Jesus. What connections do you see between Abram's covenant with God and the new covenant in Jesus? How are they similar, where do they differ?