Small Group Guide October 31, 2026
"From Abraham to Us: Growing in Faith and Reflecting God"

This message traces a long thread -- from Abraham and Sarah, through the Reformation, through the rise of the Messianic movement, and into the present day. The central idea is that God works through faithful people to spread the knowledge of Himself to the nations. The question placed before us is: where do we fit in that story, and how seriously are we taking it?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. The message describes the shift in language from "stars in the sky" to "stars in the sky AND sand on the seashore" as a visual expansion of how large Abraham's family would become. What does that progression suggest about how God's promises tend to unfold over time?

2. Abraham could not have fully understood what his descendants would go through or how the promise would ultimately be fulfilled. How do you relate to that? Are there promises or callings in your own life that you are walking in without being able to see the full picture?

3. The message points out that the Torah makes provision for people outside of Abraham's physical descendants to join with Israel through faith. What does that tell you about the character of God from the very beginning?

4. The message describes Abraham and Sarah as "spiritual disruptors" because their faith drew people to the God of Israel. Martin Luther is described the same way. What do you think it takes for an ordinary person to become that kind of disruptive force for God? What tends to hold people back?

5. The message notes that Luther's core conviction -- that repentance must come from within a person rather than through external means -- echoes the message of the prophets, John the Baptist, and Yeshua Himself. Why do you think that message has to be rediscovered in every generation? What causes it to get buried?

6. The message raises the possibility of another Reformation on the horizon. What do you think would need to change -- in the Church broadly, or in your own community -- for something like that to take shape?

7. The message argues that seventh-day Shabbat observance, feast-keeping, and Biblical eating are not the defining marks of a Messianic believer. What do you think the true center of Messianic identity is, based on what was presented?

8. The pastor offers eight characteristics of what it means to be Messianic in practice. Which of the following resonates most with you, and which challenges you the most?

- Being scripturally adept across the full Bible
- Being able to engage with and apply the texts to real life
- Being able to articulate why Yeshua is the Jewish Messiah from Scripture
- Being able to explain God's plan of redemption and the need for it
- Seeing Yeshua not only as Rabbi and advocate but as the coming Judge and King
- Being able to defend your views respectfully and from the totality of Scripture
- Reflecting the communal, prayerful, and learning aspects of the early congregations
- Being a light to the nations and to the Jewish people

9. The message warns against two opposite errors: replacement theology on one side, and the idea that performing more Jewish practices earns more of God's love on the other. Have you encountered either of these errors? How do you guard against them?

10. Genesis 18:19 describes God's purpose for Abraham as commanding his household to keep the way of God by doing righteousness and justice, so that what God promised would come to pass. How does that connect obedience to mission? What does it look like in your daily life to "keep the way of Adonai by doing righteousness and justice"?

11. The message closes with a question: Abraham and Sarah were recognized as people of God even by those who did not know God. Can the same be said of us? Sit with that question honestly. What would someone who does not know Yeshua observe about your life?