ROOTS A Study in Genesis

LESSON 11 GENESIS 15

- 1. How was your perspective changed or reinforced from your study of **Genesis 13-14**, and how was it significant for you this past week?
- 2. As you read **Genesis 15**, ask God to reveal His power and faithfulness, and pray for grace to trust Him in new ways.
- 3. Read V1, which begins with "After this," referring to what happened in Genesis 14.a) How do you see the events of Chapter 14 relate to what God promised in V1 and why?

b) What difference would it make in your circumstances to hear God say, "Do not be afraid, (insert your name). I am your shield, your very great reward", and to believe Him?

4. From **V2-5** how did God assure Abram of His promise (see **Genesis 12:7**), and what new information did He reveal about Abram's offspring?

5. a) Read V6 together with Hebrews 11:1 and 11:6. Explain in your own words the meaning of and relationship between believing God (faith) and righteousness.

- b) Read **Hebrews 11:8-16**. What more do you learn about Abram's faith and God's faithfulness in keeping His promises in the following areas:
 - Land (V8-9):
 - Offspring (V11-12)
 - Eternal home (V10, 13-16)
- 6. Where do you struggle to believe God's promises? How is **V1-6** a model for dealing with fear and doubt?
- 7. What was God's main promise to Abram from **V7-21**? Summarize how God assured him and sealed this promise. (Note: The slaughter and division of animals was a common practice in Abram's culture to confirm a covenant.)
- 8. a) From V12-16 what were the prophecies in this passage, and what astounds you in how they were fulfilled? (If needed, see Exodus 1:8-14, Exodus 12:31-38, and Genesis 25:8.)
 - b) What does fulfilled prophecy tell you about God, and what difference does that make for you?
- 9. **V17** may seem strange to us today, but there is great wonder to be found in how God told Abram He was trustworthy to fulfill His promises.
 - a) Who was represented by the "smoking fire pot" and "flaming torch"? (See Exodus 3:2 &19:18.)

- b) Challenge question: In your opinion, why do you think God appeared in this form and why was it Him alone?
- 10. In this amazing passage we learn how the **ROOTS** of true faith began through Abram (V6).
 - a) What comfort does it bring that Abram struggled with doubt, and yet God assured him of His promises? In what areas of doubt would you like your faith to be strengthened?
 - b) What image or visual will you use from this passage to remember God's promises to you? Explain.

"GOSPEL GLIMPSES": Abram understood that everything God promised to him would ultimately be fulfilled through the promised offspring.

- 1. From Galatians 3:6-9, 29 connect Abram's faith (V6) to the Gospel and to our faith as believers today.
- 2. Read **Ephesians 2:8** along with **Romans 3:22-24**. What more do you learn about faith and how is this meaningful to you?
- 3. How does Jesus ultimately fulfill the covenant God made between Him and Abram?
- 4. a) Write out the Suggested Memory Verse: Genesis 15:6
 - b) Pray and ask God for grace to believe and trust that all His promises are fulfilled in Christ.

<u>NAME</u>

PRAYER REQUEST