



Sunday Teaching Discussion Guide: Road Trip Week 3: June 16, 2019

Recap:

- In Genesis, Abraham goes on a epic life-changing journey of hundreds of miles at a rather old age all at the word “Go” from God.
- The story of Abraham is also told in the New Testament book of Hebrews, which was a letter written to Jews. They already believed in God and had a set of customs, traditions, and practices. For some, their faith in God had been reduced to a checklist: a series of do’s and don’t’s that guided their lives.
- In Hebrews, the author retells the story of Abraham and focuses on his faith as the important part of the story. Abraham wasn’t obeying Jewish tradition. He didn’t have a checklist. He was obeying God. All because he trusted God. He believed God. He had faith.
- Faith is choosing to follow God even though the hard times and the moments of uncertainty.
- Our faith tells us that we have a Father who created us, a Son who saved us, and a Holy Spirit that counsels us. We try to control our lives, and we wonder sometimes how on earth we’re going to make it through each day. But in the Trinity, we have life, we have love, and we have hope.

Discuss:

1. Have you ever been promised something that seems too good to be true? Have you ever been promised something great but only if you did something very difficult? What was it like?
2. READ Genesis 12:1-9
3. At the old age of 75, what do you think is going on in Abram’s mind as God tells him to go on a journey? Why do you think God chose someone like Abram? Why would God want one of the patriarchs of his religion be someone who had to travel hundreds of miles at such an old age?
4. Abram was not going alone. He had his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, and people to go along with him. How do you think they responded to Abram telling them that he had been called by God?
5. READ Hebrews 11:8-12
6. The writer describes God as an architect. How is this an appropriate image for God in this story?
7. In describing Abraham as “good as dead”, what message do you think the writer is trying to communicate to his readers?
8. Abraham did not have a road map or rules to follow -- he only had a promise. Do you feel like your faith is built more on a road map, rules to follow, or a promise? Do you think it matters? What are some ways that you can live your faith more on God’s promises?

Pray: Invite members of your group to share prayer requests. Give a short prayer thanking God for your group discussion and asking God to be with the requests that have been shared.

Read at Home: Additional Readings about God’s Promises

- Joshua 1:1-9
- Isaiah 41:1-10
- Matthew 7:7-11