

Small Group Discussion

Week 12



Chapter 12 – God’s Covenant with Abraham

Remember, teach what you learn and share life, not just information.

Coaching Conversations:

Beware of unhelpful conversation tangents! While sometimes it's good to spend time talking through the questions that each chapter raises, beware of letting your group time be “stolen away” by focusing on topics that might not be relevant to each week’s discussion. In this chapter for example, discussing the process of how a covenant was made might not be helpful. While it’s not a bad topic, it’s not the main focus of the chapter. What is significant, however, is that an agreement was instituted by God to Abraham and God was faithful to keep His promises! As group members pose different questions or issues that you don't know the answer to, it's ok to say "I don't know... but I will look into that this week." It’s not possible to be an expert on every topic in the Bible and we don’t expect that of you. The leader resource page offers some instructions on how to consult additional resources that can help you answer some of the difficult questions that may still arise. Remember, the focus each week isn’t just the Biblical content. The main focus is getting group members to honestly wrestle with and answer the personal application questions that are presented each week.

How HIS-story becomes My Story:

GOD’S STORY - God made a covenant with Abraham and was faithful to uphold the promises and blessings that were included in that covenant.

OUR STORY - God has promised to uphold this covenant to all who have placed their faith in Him and He is absolutely faithful to maintain it.

MY STORY - I’ve been personally invited into a relationship with God that offers redemption and restoration, despite my inclination to sin.

Starting the Conversation:

Consider asking your group members to share how last week’s discussion on sin affected their view of sin this past week. Did they notice a difference in how they approached and tried to fight the desires of their flesh?

Additional Recommended Resources:

- “What is a Covenant?” – article from Christian Apologetics & Research Ministry
- “What are the covenants in the Bible?” – GotQuestions.org article

Life Group Questions

1. Read Genesis 12:1–9, 15:1–21, and 17:1–14. What stands out to you from reading the promises that God gave to Abraham?
2. What does God’s covenant with Abraham reveal to us about God?
3. What does God’s covenant with Abraham reveal about God’s plan of redemption?
4. Consider the biblical pattern: people sin, people suffer the consequences, God redeems. How have you seen this pattern in your own life?
5. In Genesis 15, God made it clear that His promises to Abraham were not dependent on Abraham. How should this affect the way we think about God’s plan of redemption?
6. Why is it significant that God created a people for Himself? What did God want to accomplish through this “great nation” He promised to form?
7. Consider God’s intentions to bless “all the nations” through His promise to Abraham. What implications does this have for the way we view the world today?
8. Think about the ways that God has blessed you. How should these blessings be used to benefit the people around you?
9. Read Romans 4. Why do you think the New Testament makes such a big deal about Abraham’s faith?
10. How should Abraham’s faith affect the way you think about and relate to God?

Prayer Assignment:

Ask God to increase your faith in Him. Ask Him to make you more consistently aware of His plan of redemption and the role He wants you to play in that.