

Session #6

Abraham and Sarah (Genesis 15:1-6, 16:1-6, 17:15-19, 18:9-15, 21:1-7,

Hebrews 11:8-12)

Breaking the Ice:

God promised Abraham and Sarah a son then had them wait 25 years for the fulfillment of the promise.

What was the hardest period of "waiting" you have experienced?

Exploration:

Read: Genesis 15:1-6

How does Abraham's conversation with God demonstrate how we often try to offer God solutions to our problem?

Is this productive? In your experience, does God often accept our solutions?

Read: Genesis 16:1-6

How do you react to Sarah's plan to have children?

Why does conflict result? What lesson can you take away from Abraham and Sarah's actions?

Read: Genesis 17:15-19, 18:9-15

How did Abraham and Sarah express their doubts?

How did God respond to their doubts? How does this encourage you?

Read: Genesis 21:1-7

What would be missing if there were not a "wait" in this story?

What lessons have you learned through waiting?

Read: *Hebrews* 11:8-12

Note each of the actions/decisions listed in this passage; discuss how each one can be put into play in our lives.

Bringing it Home

God may be more interested in developing our character, faith and maturity than quickly giving us answers.

Bottom Line

Focus on trusting in God's ultimate goals rather than momentary frustrations.