# **RUN BY FAITH**

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SMALL GROUP GUIDE WEEK 6

# SESSION 6 BELIEVING WHILE YOU'RE WAITING

## **@ CHECKING IN**

- 1. In session one, you rated the strength of your faith on a scale of 1 to 10. How would you rate your faith today?
- 2. Share a verse or insight that was especially meaningful to you in your *Daring Faith* daily devotions this past week.

### **MEMORY VERSE**

"With God everything is possible." Matthew 19:26 NLT

## ଜ WATCH THE VIDEO LESSON NOW. FOLLOW ALONG IN YOUR OUTLINE.

# SESSION 6 BELIEVING WHILE YOU'RE WAITING

Have you ever been in a hurry when God wasn't? One of the most difficult things to do in life is to sit in God's waiting room. When you worship an eternal God, sometimes it can feel like you're waiting for an eternity.

#### THE SIX PHASES OF FAITH

#### PHASE ONE: \_\_\_\_\_

The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation." Genesis 12:1-2 NIV

PHASE TWO: \_\_\_\_\_

So Abram left, as the LORD had told him. Genesis 12:4 NIV

A dream without a decision is worthless.

PHASE THREE: \_\_\_\_\_

Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. Genesis 16:1 NIV

PHASE FOUR: \_\_\_\_\_

*"Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old? Will Sarah bear a child at the age of ninety?"* Genesis 17:17 NIV

PHASE FIVE: \_\_\_\_\_

"Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and . . . sacrifice him as a burnt offering." Genesis 22:2 NIV

PHASE SIX: \_\_\_\_\_

"Abraham! Abraham! . . . Do not lay a hand on the boy. Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son." Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The LORD Will Provide." Genesis 22:11-14 NIV

#### HOW TO KEEP BELIEVING WHILE YOU'RE WAITING ON GOD

1. Remember \_\_\_\_\_

The situation may be out of your control, but it's not out of God's control.

Abraham believed [in] the God who gives life to the dead and who creates something out of nothing. Romans 4:17 NCV

"Anything is possible if you have faith." Mark 9:23 TLB

"What is impossible with men is possible with God." Luke 18:27 NIV

2. Rely on \_\_\_\_\_\_

When hope was dead within him, [Abraham] went on hoping in faith, believing that he would become "the father of many nations." He relied on the word of God. Romans 4:18 PH

3. Recognize \_\_\_\_\_

Without weakening in his faith, [Abraham]faced the fact that his body was as good as dead . . . and that Sarah's womb was also dead. Yet he did not waver through unbelief. Romans 4:19-20 NIV

*Through faith he regarded the facts.* Romans 4:19 GW

Faith is not ignoring reality or pretending a problem does not exist. Faith is facing a hopeless situation without being discouraged by it.

4. Rejoice \_\_\_\_\_\_

Abraham never doubted. He believed God, for his faith and trust grew ever stronger, and he praised God for this blessing even before it happened. He was completely sure that God was well able to do anything he promised. Romans 4:20-21 TLB

#### THREE KINDS OF DELIVERANCE

• \_\_\_\_\_ deliverance

In this type of deliverance God miraculously changes the situation.

• \_\_\_\_\_ deliverance

In this type of deliverance God doesn't change the circumstance, He changes you.

• \_\_\_\_\_ deliverance

If you have placed your faith in Jesus Christ, ultimately, He will deliver you to heaven where there is no sorrow, no suffering, no sadness and no pain. That is God's ultimate deliverance.

We rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Romans 5:2 NIV

*"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through* me." John14:6 NIV

Jesus can take a hopeless end and turn it into an endless hope. He may not deliver you in the way you think He should, but He will deliver you in the way He knows is best.

## **DISCOVERY QUESTIONS**

- Dwight said the first thing to do while you're waiting on God is to "remember what God can do." What miracles has God already done in your life? How has He answered your prayers in the past? What did you learn about God in the process? Share stories of God's faithfulness with your group.
- Which phase of faith are you in right now? What do you think God is trying to teach you through it, and how does He want you to respond?
- What is the most meaningful lesson you have learned through this study of I'M IN: Run by Faith? What difference will that lesson make in your life?
- How have the people in your group helped to strengthen your faith?

## LIVING ON PURPOSE

Worship: As the old hymn says, "Count your blessings." Remembering the things God has done in the past will build your faith for your current situation. Take ten minutes during your quiet time tomorrow and make a list of all the things God has done for you. Write them down. Then tell him thanks. You will be amazed by what it does for your faith.

## PRAYER DIRECTION

- Before you pray for each other's requests, thank God for the lessons you have learned in this I'M IN: Run by Faith study.
- Pray for each other that God will help you in whichever phase of faith you are in.
- Pray for each other's prayer requests. Be sure to record them on the *Small Group Prayer and Praise Report* on page 78 of this study guide. Commit to pray for each other's requests every day this week.

## **DIVING DEEPER**

- Read the I'M IN daily devotions for days 36 to 40 in this study guide. If it's more convenient, you can listen to the daily devotions at newpointe.org/imin. They're free!
- Read the Memory Verse on page 65 every day this week as part of your quiet time. See if you can memorize it before your next group meeting.

## **BEFORE YOU GO**

- Sign up for NewPointe's Daily devotional email at newpointe.org/daily. It's absolutely free!
- Connect to NewPointe.
  Facebook: NewPointe Community Church Instagram: newpointecommunitychurch Twitter: @dwightmason; @newpointechurch Check out Dwight's Blog: dwightmason.com
- Congratulations on completing this study. It's time to plan a party! Pick a date, time, and location for your group to celebrate the work God has done in your lives over these last six weeks.
- I'M IN Instagram Challenge: We dare you to share one of God's promises that you're relying on. #npimin