



MOST LIKELY TO Abraham

#npmostlikelyto

Week 2
2 of 5

July 1, 2018

Bottom Line: When you don't understand God's ways . . . "God always does the right thing."

Icebreaker: Divide your group into two. Give them 10 minutes to find 10 things they have in common with the other people in their group. Body parts are not permitted. Lots of laughter and good conversation coming up!

Key Verse: *It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going. Even when he reached the land God promised him, he lived there by faith—for he was like a foreigner, living in tents..Abraham was confidently looking forward to a city with eternal foundations,a city designed and built by God. It was by faith that even Sarah was able to have a child, though she was barren and was too old. She believed that God would keep his promise.And so a whole nation came from this one man who was as good as dead—a nation with so many people that, like the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore, there is no way to count them.* Hebrews 11:8-12

Nothing God said to Abraham sounded reasonable and understandable at the outset. Go somewhere without knowing where you are going? Have a child in his old age? Be willing to sacrifice that son in devotion to God? Become the father of a nation so big that the people would be as numerous as the stars in the sky? None of these things seemed logical or right. Yet Abraham discovered through his obedience that God always does the right thing. At many other junctures in Abraham's life, the choices God directed him to make seemed to undercut him and make life harder for him, yet God's ways and God's direction were always right. He was able to fulfill incredible, even incredulous promises through Abraham's trust and obedience.

God is full of wisdom and love. He will always have our best interest at heart, and He will never be proven wrong. He will keep every promise He has made. He will supply everything we need, to do what He asks us to do. Impossible situations are no match for Him. He will do the right thing every single time, and the conclusion of the matter will always prove it. You don't have to understand. You just have to trust and obey.

THINK IT OVER >>>

What impacted you most from today's message?

"Abraham believed the Lord, and God credited it to him as righteousness" (Genesis 15:6). What do you believe that means?

Can you truly be righteous without believing God's outrageous promises?

What is a most common reason for you personally to doubt God's promises?

Why do you believe God often delays (from our perspective) fulfilling His promises?

Few believers would actually voice that we have a better plan than God. What do we do that exhibits how we think, however?

Acting out doubt will complicate your future.

LOOK IT OVER <<<

Often when God makes a promise, the means to fulfill the promise is not evident. When they didn't see how it could happen, Abraham and Sarah laughed. What kind of laughter was that? How do you react to big faith challenges and promises when the resources are invisible?

You have had some prayers that have not been answered in the way you wish. What is your personal answer to the question, "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" Explain.

"In impossible situations, God always gets the glory." Sometimes giving God the glory is not our natural reaction. How can we make sure to point to God and personally give Him the glory and praise when He comes through in a mighty way?"

"Impossible is just a word to God." Discuss.



NEXT STEPS

This week consider taking some next steps together as a group:

1. Share: Where do you need to hit the pause button and wait for God's timing? (relationships, change, purchases)
2. Share: Where do you need to actively move forward in surrender and faith? (marriage, work, church, etc.)
3. Share next week how God is working.

EVALUATION/ACTION

Realizing and reaching your full potential in Christ

Bottom Line: When you don't understand God's ways . . . "God always does the right thing."

Rate yourself from 1 to 10 1 (never), 10 (always)	1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?										
Do you know someone who demonstrates this bottom line well? What do you admire about that person?										
What specific action can you put into practice to raise your rating?										
At the end of this week, reflect - where did you see the bottom line show up in your actions throughout the week?										

PRAYER

List group members and their prayer requests for this week:

DAILY STUDY

Want to dig deeper? Check out **The Daily** this week at newpointe.org/daily:

Monday: Genesis 16:1-5

Tuesday: Genesis 17:1-4

Wednesday: Hebrews 11:17-19

Thursday: Isaiah 55:7-9

Friday: Psalm 114:7-8

Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over with others throughout the week.
(Don't forget to bring this paper to your next small group meeting)