

**Leaders:** Be sure to take note of the November-December prayer night guide on the small group questions page! Speaking of prayer... consider a creative way to pray as a group this week. Open with 5-7 min of prayers of praise, or conclude large group discussion with corporate prayer, or... you get the idea 😊

**LEARN**

What stood out to you from the sermon on Sunday? What was most helpful, encouraging or challenging to your walk with Christ?

What does faith have to do with acknowledging we are strangers and exiles on the earth (v. 13)?  
(Without faith in God's promises to provide a better land/country/city, we would only live for things here and now. Faith sees God's promises as true and, like OT believers, "greet them from afar")

What does the fact that Abraham "considered" God was able to raise Isaac back to life have to do with his obedience to God's command to sacrifice him (v. 19)?  
(He knew the character of God, that he always does what is right, and the power of God that he can do whatever he pleases. He thought out the implications of the command and was prepared to obey in the face of what did not make sense to him)

**PRACTICE**

Faith patiently waits for a better future (v. 9-10). How has God grown you in patience, as you trust him by faith with your future?

(Ideally focus on recent and present situations/examples for edification of the group regarding patience)

Faith desires the life to come more than the life that is (v. 13-16). How is (or is not) this true of your faith right now? How does Abraham's faith serve as an example to us in this way?

(Consider reading Philippians 3:20. Abraham had perspective of faith to see beyond his circumstances or his life to know God had promised eternity with him, and that reality changed his focus, decisions, etc.)

**CHANGE**

What specifically would be different in your life today if you consistently desired the life to come more than this life on earth?

(Leaders: Consider follow up questions about how life would change, and how they will commit to pursue that change of heart/habit/focus)

Pray as a group that each person would have their heart captivated by the future city/country God is preparing for you to be in with him, and pray that this assurance would impact our lives for his glory.