

# IN THE BEGINNING

H

## HIGHLIGHT — GENESIS 12:1-3, HCSB

*1 The Lord said to Abram: Go out from your land, your relatives, and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 I will make you into a great nation, I will bless you, I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, I will curse those who treat you with contempt, and all the peoples on earth will be blessed through you.*

## HIGHLIGHT — GENESIS 15:1-6, HCSB

*1 After these events, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision: Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield; your reward will be very great. 2 But Abram said, "Lord God, what can You give me, since I am childless and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" 3 Abram continued, "Look, You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house will be my heir." 4 Now the word of the Lord came to him: "This one will not be your heir; instead, one who comes from your own body will be your heir." 5 He took him outside and said, "Look at the sky and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then He said to him, "Your offspring will be that numerous." 6 Abram believed the Lord, and He credited it to him as righteousness.*

**MEMORY VERSES:** HEBREWS 11:6; HEBREWS 11:8-10

E

## EXPLAIN

Use the image of the tattoo below and consider the following questions.





A

**APPLY**

Do you know anyone who has a tattoo? What tattoo does he/she have?

Have you ever felt a tattoo before? What does it feel like beneath the skin?

***Tattoos are permanent marks within the skin, made with ink and a long needle. Tattoos are markings made in the skin that last for a lifetime. Although tattoos can technically be removed, a scar will remain on the skin, a mark symbolizing the history of what was once there. In a way, a tattoo is like a covenant that is made on your body.***

Have you ever made a promise to another person that you eventually did not keep? If you're comfortable, share that story with the group.

What does it mean to make a "covenant" with someone? What are some examples from every day life that can help us understand better what a "covenant" is?

***A covenant is a promise that cannot be broken—it is a serious vow, and usually signified by a physical marking or signature.***

What specific promise did God make to Abram?

Why do you think Abram knew he could trust God?

How was Abram praised in this passage for believing and trusting in the Lord?

When was the last time you trusted the Lord for a promise?

What did Abraham have to give up in order to obey his faith in God's promises? Is sacrifice always required in order for us to have faith? Why or why not?

R

**RESPOND**

Close your group time in prayer together. Spend some time thanking God for His promises and His faithfulness to always uphold His end of the covenant, even when we are unfaithful. Take time to thank God for keeping His promise to send Jesus and declaring us His righteous children.