

Greater Than

Word

Scripture Reference

Genesis 17:1-18:15

Discussion Questions

1. Read Genesis 17:1-18:15. God's greatness was evident in the life of Abraham. God promised him that he will be the father of many nations. He waited for a long time to see the fulfillment of this promise. Isaiah 40:31 says, "But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." To wait on God means to exchange our weakness with His power, to walk in His strength, and to rest in Him. Waiting for many years before seeing the fulfillment of God's promise tested Abraham's faith, and in this we can learn four things about God's greatness. First is that God is greater than all things. What was God's promise to Abram (v. 1-2)? Why would this promise seem absurd? How did God describe Himself?
2. God is *El Shaddai*, which means almighty, all-competent, all-powerful, and all-sufficient. Nothing is too hard for Him, and He comes to us in the way we need Him most. Would you say that you truly know God as *El Shaddai*? When was the last time you were overwhelmed with God's greatness? Share with the group.
3. Secondly, God is greater than your doubts (v. 3-14). What problem could have caused Abraham to doubt God's promise? What did God instruct Abraham to do as a covenant between Him and Abraham and his descendants (v. 9-14)? Which among God's instructions do you find difficult to obey because of doubt? Share and discuss.
4. When God instructs us to do something, our job is to obey, to move forward in faith and to actively wait. What did Abraham do after God had established His covenant with him (v. 24-27)? To wait on the Lord means to know and believe God's promises, to follow His directions and enjoy His blessings. Was there a time when you received a clear instruction from the Lord and you followed it by faith? How did you find out about it, and what happened when you obeyed?

5. Thirdly, God is greater than your weakness (v. 17:15-17; 18:1-15). How did Sarah react when she overheard that she would be giving birth the following year? How incredible is it that Isaac was born although Sarah's womb was dead? Read 2 Corinthians 12:9. How is God's power being perfected in your weakness? What is something that is impossible for you to do, but were able to because of God's power? Share with the group.
6. Lastly, God is greater than your past (v. 17:17-22). What mistake did Abraham commit in the past? What did Abraham wish God would do with the fruit of that past? What did God tell him instead (v. 21)? Do you believe that God can untangle the mess that you've done in the past?

Walk

The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more (Romans. 5:20).

God is greater than...

- my doubts
- my weakness
- my past
- my needs
- my pain
- my fear
- my shame
- my family problems
- my career/studies

Do you believe in your heart that He really is greater than all things? How would you fill in the blank: God is greater than _____.

Would you come to Jesus and turn over to Him anything that bogs you down?

Worship & Prayer

Father, thank You for being the God who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above what I ask. Forgive me for the times I doubted Your power. I paint a picture of You in my mind based on my circumstances, forgetting that You are greater than what I imagine You to be. Time and again You faithfully show me that I can trust You. You give me hope through the promises in Your Word. I only need to obey, and the rest is up to You, but even that I often find difficult to do. I am weak, Lord; but in my weakness, You are strong. Give me strength to keep trusting You even when times are difficult. You showed me that my past mistakes no longer matter because of the shed blood of Jesus Christ on the cross. Your forgiveness is eternal, and for that I am assured. Thank You, Father. In Jesus name. Amen.