

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

JOURNEY OF FAITH: WEEK 4

While anyone can take time to answer these questions individually, these questions are best discussed in a group! Not in a group yet? We want you in one! Head over to southeastchristian.org to join a group in person or online, wherever you are - today!

Have you ever been frustrated in the middle of a book you were reading or a movie you were watching? What was it about the story/circumstances that frustrated you? Did you stick through to the end of the story? Why or why not? How does knowing the work of the author help us hang in there when the story seems dark?

Read Genesis 15:1-6. How was Abraham frustrated with God in this moment? How would you have felt if you were in his situation? How did God respond to Abraham's complaint? What does this teach us about the nature of faith? In what ways is our faith often defined in the waiting?

Has there ever been a time in your life when you felt like you were on a detour? What happened to make things feel like they were moving beyond your control? What were you waiting for God to do in that moment? How did that time of waiting ultimately end?

Read Genesis 16:1-10. What solution did Abraham and Sarah come up with to help speed along God's promise? How did their solution backfire? What are some of the consequences that can happen when we take matters into our own hands? How does trying to rush God's plans often create trouble for us?

Thirteen years would pass between Genesis 16 and 17, with seemingly no word from God. How do you think Abraham felt in that time of waiting? Do you think he worried about his detour disqualifying him from God's plan? What assurance can we take from this story knowing that our detours don't cancel God's destination?

Read Genesis 16:13. What name did Hagar give to God? How significant is it for us to know that God sees us? How does that help us in the waiting? What's something you are currently waiting for (you don't have to share out loud if you don't want)? Close in prayer by asking God to see you and be with you in the waiting.