



## **Trusting the Plan & Promise, Part 1**

**January 12, 2020**

Sermon Discussion Guide

This message is part one of two in this larger series on God's covenant promises found in Genesis! Like last week, today's message deals with God's plan and promise for humankind! The first part of the sermon looks at how God made a covenant with Noah and how Noah had to exercise faith in God's plan and promise. Through Noah, God made a way for His redemptive plan for the human race to be continued. We then look at Abraham and the covenant God made with him and with his wife Sarah. It was not easy for them to trust the plan and promise of God in regards to having a son because of their advanced age. But God reassures Abraham on numerous occasions that He will keep His promise! Melchizedek, King of Salem, and a priest of God, is mentioned because of his significance concerning the covenant promises, which would be ultimately fulfilled in Jesus. Melchizedek was never mentioned in a Biblical genealogy. So his birth is never recorded and his death is never mentioned in the Bible. Melchizedek was a type, or a foreshadowing of a King who would someday be the Alpha and the Omega. One who was the beginning and the ending, but who also had always been and would always be. Jesus the Christ! The message then looks briefly at Sarah's own plan to raise up a nation through Abraham rather than trusting God's promise. Abraham agrees to go along with her plan and some pretty significant issues result. God reassures Abraham on numerous occasions that he and Sarah would indeed have a son, even in their old age. The message concludes with a discussion on how we also struggle with trusting God's plan and promise. A definition of faith, the importance of having faith in God, and then some powerful statements about faith wrap up the sermon.

### **HIGHLIGHT**

- **Read the Text** - Genesis 6:5-9; Genesis 6:18; Genesis 12:1-5; Genesis 14:18-20; Hebrews 6:17-7:4; Genesis 15:1-6:1-6; Genesis 16:1-2; Genesis 17:1-6; Genesis 17:1-6, 15-19.  
Ask for someone to read the text aloud. Or you read the text aloud.
- **Look for Highlights** - As the text is read, tell the group to be looking out for the highlights (a particular verse, something new learned, a reminder, a question, etc.)

## **EXPLAIN**

- To whom was it originally written? Why?
- How does it fit with the verses before and after it?
- What is the Holy Spirit intending to communicate through this text?

## **APPLY**

- What does this mean today?
- What is God saying to you personally?
- How can you apply this message to your life?

## **RESPOND**

- In what ways does this passage call you to action?
- How will you be different because of what you've learned?
- What is a prayer to God in response to what you read today?