## LESSON 7 // BUILD YOUR FAITH

**Big Idea:** Faith in the living God is a key to discovering your destiny and leaving a good legacy. This kind of faith moves us from: the known to the unknown; religion to a personal relationship with God; the possible to the impossible; the temporary to the eternal; death to life; self-centeredness to serving others.

**Romans 4:5 (ERV)** But people cannot do any work that will make them right with God. So they must trust in him. Then he accepts their faith, and that makes them right with him. He is the one who makes even evil people right.

**Hebrews 11:8, 10 (NLT)** It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going. ... Abraham was confidently looking forward to a city with eternal foundations, a city designed and built by God.

Hebrews 11:17-19 (NLT) It was by faith that Abraham offered Isaac as a sacrifice when God was testing him. Abraham, who had received God's promises, was ready to sacrifice his only son, Isaac, 18 even though God had told him, "Isaac is the son through whom your descendants will be counted." 19 Abraham reasoned that if Isaac died, God was able to bring him back to life again. And in a sense, Abraham did receive his son back from the dead.

**1 John 5:13 (NLT)** I have written this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know you have eternal life.

## **Start Talking:**

How would you describe what real "faith in Christ" is for someone who is not a believer?

## Start Thinking:

**Read Romans 4:5.** Why is it impossible for us to do enough "good works" to be right with God? What makes us right with God?

**Read Hebrews 11:8-10.** How does faith in Christ allow us, like Abraham, to be "confidently looking forward" to our future and eternity with God? In what ways should this make a difference in how we live every day?

**Read Hebrews 11:17-19.** What do you learn about faith in these verses and the story of Abraham and Isaac? How does this story challenge your faith?

**Read 1 John 5:13.** Why is it so important to know for sure that we already have eternal life right now through faith in Jesus?

## **Start Praying and Doing:**

Pray that God would strengthen your faith with confidence in His promises and boldness to live for Him. Let Abraham's example challenge you to believe that God is "able to do above and beyond all that we ask or think according to the power that works in us" (Ephesians 3:20, *HCSB*).