

# SUMMER BIBLE JAM '18

## WEEK 4

### Sarah: Abraham's Wife

#### Reading Plan

- Mon: Genesis 11:27 - ch. 13
- Tues: Genesis 14-15
- Wed: Genesis 16:1 - 18:16
- Thurs: Romans 3-4
- Fri: Galatians 3-4; Ephesians 2:8-9; James 2:14-26
- Sat: Ponder & write your systematic theology assignment listed below

Bible Jam has introduced us to a variety of ways that we should be interacting with God's Word. We should read to gain knowledge, we should meditate to encounter God, we should learn doctrine to inform the reasons for our faith. The covenant of faith that God made with Abraham affords us much to meditate on and much help in coming to understand the nature of salvation! Sarah's life gives us much opportunity to better understand God's sovereign control over our personal stories.

## Discussion Questions

- Based on your readings this week:
- What have you learned about the personal and spiritual lives of Abraham and Sarah when God first came to them? How do you explain God's choice to get involved with people from the land of Ur? How do you explain God choosing to partner with this couple, when you consider some of the "flaws" in how they followed and trusted God? In what way does this insight help you understand how God might be involved in your own life or in the life of those around you? On what basis does God walk with people?
- It is safe to say that Sarah lives her life "in the shadow" of her more famous husband Abraham and in many ways her life is "defined" and "scripted" around God's purpose given to Abraham. Have you considered how God may be "attaching" your story to the lives and events of others around you? If you are a wife or a mother, have you considered the role you are called to play in furthering God's story in other people's lives? Who are those people? Ask God for insights on how to participate in "their story" and ask God for faith to be in the difficult places that that may take you.
- Are you aware that you don't get to "design your own life" and "choose your own people"—in many ways God sovereignly placed Sarah in a relationship that would require her to leave her family, to relocate to unknown places, to face unexpected threats and dangers, to have to put up with the weaknesses and failings of others close to her. Consider those realities in Sarah's life and then consider your own. Have you explored the thought that God has created the "boundary lines" for your life? Consider what that means for the location you are in, the circumstances you have faced, and the people you are joined to.
- Reading Rom 3-4, Gal 3-4, & Jam 2:14-26 gives you a good sampling of "systematic theology" as it pertains to understanding righteousness and salvation. Using Ephesians 2:8-10 as an outline, take a moment to study and write a paragraph or two on your understanding of salvation by grace through faith and the proper place that works has to play in that doctrinal insight.