

# THE STORY

God builds a new nation

God reveals his plan for the new nation

Genesis 12:2-3

God will make the new nation great

God will make Abram's name great

God will bless all who bless

Curse all who curse him

> Abram

All people will be blessed because of Abram

The new nation has a turbulent beginning

Hagar & Ishmael

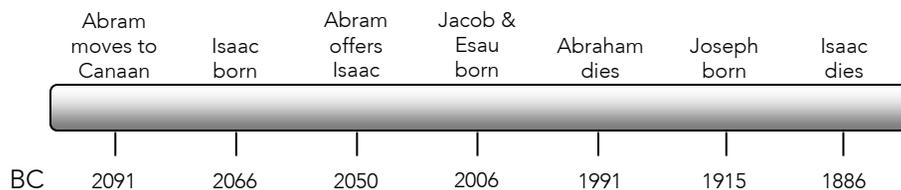
Genesis 16

Sarah laughs

Genesis 18

Abraham tested

Genesis 22



Week 2  
God Builds a Nation  
September 17, 2017



## Questions for the Week

Big Idea: God will accomplish his plan and will in this world, but he often does it in ways we would not expect and through surprising people.

Key Verse: Genesis 17:7

I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.

Abraham left his homeland and family to follow God.

What did God say his reward would be?

What might God be asking you to give up to follow him?

What made Abraham righteous in God's sight? (Rom. 4:3)

How is this fact relevant to your life?

Why did God ask Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac?

What did Abraham—and Isaac—learn from this experience?

What do you learn from Abraham and Sarah's faith from Hebrews 11:8-9?

Abraham and Sarah were called by God and they followed him in faith. Tell about a time God called you to take a step of faith. How did you respond and how did that step of faith turn out?

Sarah did not think God was moving fast enough with the whole "nation building project." So, she decided to help God by giving her handmaid to Abraham to bear a child for her. Give some examples of ways we jump ahead of God's timing for our lives in an effort to "help" him.



# The World of Ancient Israel

