

INTRO

- What is one thing you become impatient with easily, and how do you usually respond?

READ

Genesis 17:15-19; 18:9-15; 21:1-2

REFLECT & RESPOND

This week, we explore Abraham and Sarah's long season of waiting for God's promise. For nearly 25 years, they lived between what God had spoken and what they could actually see. In the process, their waiting exposed fear, disappointment, self-reliance, and doubt. Yet God remained faithful.

The central question is not simply, "What are you waiting for?" but, "*Who is God becoming to you in the waiting?*"

Waiting often reveals what we believe when circumstances feel louder than God's Word. It can tempt us to take control, grow cynical, or assume God is absent. But Sarah's story reminds us that God is still at work in seasons that feel silent. He forms faith before fulfillment and shapes our hearts before answering our prayers.

Q: What stood out to you most from Sarah's story or this message? Why?

Q: Have you ever experienced a season where God's promises felt disconnected from your reality? What was that like?

Q: What does waiting tend to reveal in you? Fear? Control? Anxiety? Dependence on God?

Q: Read Gen 18:14 again: "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" How does God's character change the way we view our waiting?

Q: What would it look like for you to trust God faithfully in your current season instead of simply trying to escape it?

Christ-Centred Reflection

Eventually, Sarah's laughter of disbelief became laughter of joy when God fulfilled His word through Isaac. And Isaac ultimately points us to Jesus, the greater promised Son, through whom God fulfills His salvation promises by grace.

Sarah's story reminds us that God is not absent in the waiting. He is forming faith, teaching dependence, and drawing us closer to Himself. The deeper question is not only, "What am I waiting for?" but, "*Who is Jesus becoming to me in this season?*"

As you reflect this week, consider how you can respond:

- **UP:** How can you deepen your trust and dependence on God in this season?
- **IN:** How can you encourage or walk alongside others who are waiting?
- **OUT:** Who around you needs the hope and encouragement found in Christ?

PRAY

- Pray for trust in seasons of uncertainty and delay.
- Pray for patience where disappointment or cynicism has settled in.
- Pray for courage to surrender control to God.
- Pray for faith to believe that God is still working, even in silence.
- Thank Jesus for being the fulfillment of God's promises and our source of hope.