



LIFE GROUPS 2019

NLC Life Group Study

Week of September 1, 2019

OLD SCHOOL | ABRAHAM

Life Group Schedule

30 MIN Eat, Meet & Greet

15 MIN Ice Breaker: **Two Truths and a Dream**, (a variation of “Two Truths and a Lie”). Each person prepares three statements, two true, and one that is not true, yet something they dream was true. In any order, the person shares the three statements to the entire group. The object of the game is to figure out which statement is the dream. The rest of the group votes on each statement, and the person reveals which one is the dream. This interesting spin often leads to unexpected, fascinating results, as people often share touching dreams for their lives.

TRANSITION: As you’re gathering, spend some time in **WORSHIP & PRAYER**.

45 MIN | OLD SCHOOL—ABRAHAM

JEREMIAH 6:16, This is what the Lord says, “Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.” But you said, “We will not walk in it.”

THE FOUR MAIN TESTS OF LIFE

1. A Major Change: “God, Where am I going?”

HEBREWS 11:8-10 “By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.”

› Not just one time, but throughout life

• **Principle: God, I trust you with all the “where’s” in my life.**

› God says, “Start moving, and I will direct you.”

2. A Promise on Pause: “God, When?”

HEBREWS 10:9 “9 By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.”

› When is life going to stabilize? When am I going to ...get married? ...have a baby? ...get well? When are You going to ...solve my problem? ...answer my prayer?

› Application: We can handle tests in life when we know there’s an end, but what about those times when we don’t know if it’s ever going to end?

› **Principle: A true believer trusts God’s timing!**

3. An Impossible Problem: “God, How?”

HEBREWS 11:11-12 “And by faith even Sarah, who was past

childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise. And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.”

- An impossible problem is when you wonder, “How?”
 - › How am I going to make ends meet? ...put my kids through college? ...step into my ministry? God, how are You going to ...heal me? ...change my wife/husband/child/boss?
- **Principle: This is the key to FAITH: Expect a miracle, even though you haven’t figured out the “How” yet!**

4. Wrestling with the senseless: “Why, God?”

- It’s the “Why?” question, the ultimate test: “Why is this happening, God?”
HEBREWS 11:17-19 “By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, even though God had said to him, “It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.” Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death.
 - › God, Why ...did I get fired? ...did you let my spouse leave? ...am I going bankrupt? ...did I have a miscarriage? ...did my parents die?
- Abraham said, “No matter what happens, I’m trusting God.”
- **Principle: God, I’m trusting you with this. You see perfectly. You see eternally. You are GOOD, so I’m trusting YOU.**

Q1. Which one is your family going through? Where? — When? — How? — Why? Explain.

- God, increase our faith in your faithfulness!

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAY OVER NEEDS