## Gone Camping: Believing the Promise

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**Questions:** Out of the many events and experiences in Abraham's life, which one sticks out to you the most? Why?

**Read** Genesis 15:1 (Review what happened in Genesis 14 to understand the context)

Faith is not the absence of fear. Fear is not the absence of faith.

**Questions:** How is the truth of these statements true in the life of Abraham? How have they been true in your life? In what ways does God speak directly to Abraham's fears?

Faith is choosing to keep your eyes on Jesus!

**Read** Genesis 15:2–3

**Question:** When have you really wrestled with God about the discrepancy between what you believe and what you see in and around your life?

Real faith is forged in the fire of doubt.

**Read** Hebrews 11:1



## Denying your doubt and demanding certainty is dangerous.

**Question:** Why do you agree or disagree with this statement?

## Doubt wants to believe. Unbelief refuses to believe.

**Questions:** What is the difference between "doubt" and "unbelief"? Can you think of any examples? How is this distinction significant and what are the consequences?

## Read Genesis 15:4-6

- Genesis 15:6 becomes one of the most understated yet most important verses in all of Scripture.
- The Hebrew word 'believed' is 'aman' where the word 'amen' comes from.
- Righteousness: the state or condition of being right with God

**Read** Isaiah 64:6; Galatians 3:9

The strange, cultural part of this story: Genesis 15:8-21 God makes this a unilateral covenant that finds fulfillment in Mark 15:33–34 and 2 Corinthians 5:21.

**Questions:** How do you respond to the simplicity of being made right with God because you believe? What has this "Abraham conversation with God" looked like in your life? If you haven't had it yet, when will you?