

## **Re-Group: An Origins Conversation**

### ***The Origins of Discipleship***

*What if ... ? What if the church didn't exist, but our faith in God did? What if we knew the stories of Jesus, but there was no Sunday school class to teach our children? What if there was no religion, but there was a God who continued to call us to be faithful? What if ... ? During the COVID Crisis, these have become real and legitimate questions, but for most of us, we realize these times are temporary. But these were very real questions for people like Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob – the patriarchs of the Israelite faith. Truth is, though, they must have found some pretty good answers to those questions because without them, there would be no church today. Ever wonder how they did it?*

Deuteronomy 11:1–2, 18–21

#### **Three Reflection Questions:**

1. Where do you think Abraham learned about how to worship and how to lead a “righteous life”?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What are some of the ways Abraham demonstrated that his faith was really real?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Biblically, who is responsible for instilling the Christian Faith into our children and our extended families?

#### ***My Count Me In! Commitment***

- I'll be “here” next Sunday
- I'll invite a friend
- I'll make a list of what I'd have to do to instill the faith in my family if there was no church to do it for me.
- I'll implement the most profound thing on that list.
- I'll save that list so I can implement more as the days go by

# Digging Deeper

## Week of January 10, 2021

*ReGroup: The Origins of Discipleship*

**Scripture:** Deuteronomy 11:1–21

**Introduction:** Christianity is always “just one generation from extinction.” If our children don’t embrace the faith, there will eventually be no Christianity. In recent years, the Church has been charged with introducing and indoctrinating our children into the faith, but before there was Church, before there was temple, before there was a tabernacle, there was the home and there was family.

1. Read Deuteronomy 11:1–7. According to this passage, who is best able to share the mighty works of God to children?
2. Read 11:8–17. According to this passage, what are the reasons for obedience to “every command”?
3. Read 11:18–21. This passage puts the responsibility for raising children in the faith on us. According to this passage, what are some of the ways we’re to do that?
4. Dr. Bill said it’s important our behavior reflects that our faith is “really real.” Using Deuteronomy 11:1–21 as the backdrop, why is that so important?
5. The stories of Abraham are found in Genesis 11–25. In 12:1–9 he moved his family to Canaan. In Genesis 22 we read about the “sacrifice of Isaac,” his son. These are just two of the more well-known stories of Abraham and his family. Thinking back on those stories (or you could skim through them to familiarize yourself with them), what are some of the ways Abraham demonstrated that his faith was “real” to his family?
6. How do you think Abraham and Sarah instilled their faith into their family?
7. Make a list: If there was no church to turn to, what would you do to instill your faith into your children, your spouse, your extended family?