

AGAPE HOUSE OF WORSHIP - BIBLE STUDY
Study Series: Abraham: Friend of God, Father of Faith

Part 15: Abraham in the New Testament: Our Spiritual Father
Text: Romans 4; Galatians 3; Hebrews 11:8–19

Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2025
Teacher: Pastor Jide Lawore

Abraham: Friend of God, Father of Faith (15-Week Study)			
8/13/2025	Part 1	Introduction to Abraham and his Journey of Faith	Genesis 11:26–12:9
8/20/2025	Part 2	Obedience and the First Steps of Faith	Genesis 12:10–13:4
8/27/2025	Part 3	Choices That Reveal the Heart	Genesis 13:5–18
9/3/2025	Part 4	The God Who Fights for Us	Genesis 14
9/10/2025	Part 5	The Covenant and Righteousness by Faith	Genesis 15
9/17/2025	Part 6	Impatience and the Birth of Ishmael	Genesis 16
9/24/2025	Part 7	A New Identity and the Covenant of Circumcision	Genesis 17
10/1/2025	Part 8	Friendship with God	Genesis 18
10/8/2025	Part 9	Judgment and Mercy	Genesis 19
10/15/2025	Part 10	Faith and Fear in the Face of Danger	Genesis 20
10/22/2025	Part 11	Fulfillment of the Promise	Genesis 21:1–21
10/29/2025	Part 12	Ultimate Test of Faith: The Sacrifice of Isaac	Genesis 22
11/5/2025	Part 13	The Legacy of Faith in Family	Genesis 23–24
11/12/2025	Part 14	Abraham’s Final Years and Death	Genesis 25:1–11
11/19/2025	Part 15	Abraham in the New Testament: Our Spiritual Father	Romans 4; Galatians 3; Hebrews 11

I. Introduction

In the last 14 weeks, we’ve walked alongside Abraham—through his highs and lows, his victories and failures. Today we are going look at Abraham in the New Testament where we would learn that Abraham is not merely a historical figure but a spiritual father, a foundational model and the pattern for how every believer is invited to trust, obey, wait on God, and walk confidently in the blessings of the gospel. His life becomes the primary lens through which Scripture explains justification, grace, promise, and the nature of true discipleship.

In Romans 4, Paul presents Abraham as the prototype of righteousness apart from works, demonstrating that God declares people righteous not based on their performance, but on their trust in Him. In Galatians 3, Abraham anchors the identity of the global church, revealing that all who belong to Christ—regardless of ethnicity, background, or past—are heirs of the promise and full members of God’s covenant family. The writer of Hebrews further highlights Abraham as an enduring example of pilgrimage faith, obedience without full clarity, and unshakeable confidence in God’s ability to fulfill His word.

Romans 4:23-25 “The words “it was credited to him” were written not for him alone, 24 but also for us, to whom God will credit righteousness—for us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. 25 He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

II. Abraham in Romans 4 — The Model of Justification by Faith

1. Justified Before Circumcision (Romans 4:1–12)

- Abraham was declared righteous *before* circumcision.
- Salvation is grounded in **faith alone**, not human effort.
- Abraham becomes the father of both the circumcised and uncircumcised who believe.

Discussion Question 1: *Why is it important that Abraham was justified before circumcision? What does this teach us about salvation today?*

2. The Promise Comes Through Faith, Not Law (Romans 4:13–17)

- The law came centuries after Abraham; it cannot produce salvation.
- The promise rests on **grace**, making it accessible to all believers.
- God is portrayed as the One “who gives life to the dead.”

3. Abraham’s Faith as the Pattern for Believers (Romans 4:18–25)

- Abraham believed God despite natural impossibility (“hope against hope”).
- Faith does not ignore reality—it exalts God above reality.

- Our faith today mirrors his: we trust in the God who raised Jesus from the dead.

Discussion Question 2: *What does “hope against hope” mean in practical terms? Can you share an area where you need this kind of faith?*

III. Abraham in Galatians 3 — The Father of God’s Faith Family

1. The Blessing of Abraham Comes to all of us Through Christ (Galatians 3:7–14)

- Those who believe are *children of Abraham*.
- The blessing includes:
 - Justification by faith
 - The gift of the Holy Spirit
 - Participation in God’s redemptive plan for the nations
- Christ redeems us from the curse to reconnect us to Abraham’s blessing.

2. The Promise Is Rooted in Christ (Galatians 3:15–22)

- The “Seed” is Christ, not Isaac.
- The law cannot replace or cancel the promise—it leads us to Christ.
- The “Abrahamic covenant” becomes the theological foundation of the gospel.

Discussion Question 3: *What does it mean to you personally that you are “Abraham’s seed” in Christ? How does that shape your spiritual identity?*

IV. Abraham in Hebrews 11 — A Model of Enduring Faith

1. Faith Obeys Without Full Clarity (Heb. 11:8)

- Abraham stepped out without knowing where he was going.
- Faith often begins with obedience before explanation.

2. Faith Lives as a Pilgrim (Heb. 11:9–10)

- Abraham lived in tents though he was promised a land.
- He looked for the **heavenly city**, showing long-term, eternal perspective.
- A reminder that believers are **pilgrims**, not settlers.

3. Faith Believes the Impossible (Heb. 11:11–12)

- God brought life out of barrenness.
- Faith trusts God’s creative, resurrection power over human limitation.

Discussion Question 4: *Where is God inviting you to trust Him beyond what seems reasonable, possible, or comfortable?*

4. Faith Holds Firm Under Testing (Heb. 11:17–19)

- The sacrifice of Isaac demonstrated Abraham’s confidence in God’s ability to resurrect.
- His greatest test became the clearest revelation of his faith.
- Faith clings to God’s promise when circumstances contradict the promise.

Discussion Question 5: *What part of Abraham’s New Testament example speaks most deeply to your walk with God right now—and why?*

V. Conclusion

In the New Testament, Abraham stands as the enduring example of what it means to walk with God by faith. His life teaches us that righteousness, blessing, and spiritual identity all flow from trusting God’s promises rather than relying on our own efforts. As believers in Christ, we share in Abraham’s inheritance and are called to imitate his obedience, perseverance, and confidence in God’s faithfulness. His story reminds us that genuine faith looks beyond circumstances to the God who keeps His word. May Abraham’s example inspire us to live as true sons and daughters of faith.