



**SUMMIT**  
— C H U R C H —  
DIRECTION FOR THE JOURNEY



## SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

December 14, 2025 | PREPARE THE WAY (week 1)



### GROWING CLOSER TOGETHER \_\_\_\_\_

1. Have you ever prepared really hard for something....and then it either didn't happen or went completely differently than you expected?
2. What is something you remember waiting a long time for as a kid?



### MESSAGE REFLECTION \_\_\_\_\_

1. Review the main idea(s) of the message. Share something from the service or message that stood out, challenged or encouraged you.
2. What is something you've waited for as an adult that has been difficult or hard?
3. Does knowing that God sees and cares for you change your perception of waiting and longing? How so?
4. How do you deal with doubts in your faith about God or the Bible?  
**A.** Ignore it and move on **B.** Investigate it deeply **C.** Struggle with it internally **D.** Talk it through with God and others
5. How have you experienced the immediacy of God's grace as you have been obedient and aligned yourself with God's will?
6. Read **Romans 4:16** together. How does *faith* become the source for *hope*?
7. What does it look like to choose faith in the midst of waiting?



## GOING DEEPER

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READ **Romans 4:18-25** together.

1. What is one thing that jumps out at you from this passage?
2. What were the circumstance that made Abraham's hope seem unreasonable or unlikely?
3. What do you think the phrase "against all hope" Paul uses in verse 18, means in practical, everyday terms?
4. What is the difference between being fully persuaded about **God's faithfulness** and having full certainty about **outcomes or timing (vs 21)**?
5. **Verse 19** says Abraham "faced the fact" of his circumstances without weakening in faith. Why is facing reality—not denying it—essential for mature faith?
6. How does faith in God become a *credit of righteousness* as it was for Abraham?
7. What are some ways people confuse faith with denial or certainty?



## YOUR NEXT STEP

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1. Read and meditate on **John 16:33** this week. Be encouraged in the midst of whatever trial you are facing *because* Jesus was and is the victor.
2. Be willing to do what God asks you to do today and this week. Step out in faith. Believe that God will provide what you need. Trust the results and the blessings to God.



## PRAYING TOGETHER

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Take time to share burdens and pray for one another.