



# ABRAHAM & SARAH

## Introduction

The patriarchs of the Old Testament are Abram/Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Make your case for which one those three ranks the highest:

- ✓ Reasons for ranking Abram/Abraham highest:
  
- ✓ Reasons for ranking Isaac highest:
  
- ✓ Reasons for ranking Jacob highest:

## Who Are They?

See if you can fill out the chart below - you may use your electronic device for assistance from the www!

Where in Scripture it tells of their life?	
Name and meaning of their names?	
When did they live?	
Where did they live?	
What is their major impact?	

## The Exercise of Faith

The events of Abram/Abraham and Sarai/Sarah's life can be viewed as one long exercise of their faith (*Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see*). Through various means God trained them to trust Him. God often stretched their faith with intense life circumstances, but then strengthened their faith by His Words of promise and His fulfillment of those promises. However, like the exercise of our bodies, faith training can seem painful, but yields tremendous results.

On the next page you will find a list of passages. Tell how each incident was a step in Abram/Abraham and Sarai/Sarah's faith training:

- 1) Genesis 11:27-12:9
- 2) Genesis 12:10-20
- 3) Genesis 13:1-18
- 4) Genesis 14
- 5) Genesis 15:1-6
- 6) Genesis 17:15-22
- 7) Genesis 18:22-33
- 8) Genesis 22:1,2

As you feel comfortable, tell of situations you have faced (or the stories of others you know of) by which God trained your faith. Share the thought process you went through. Explain how (if) the situation ended up with your faith strengthened in the end.

Grapple with the following statement: It's not "Faith" that provides its own strength, but the "Object of Faith" that gives it strength.

## **Beautiful Sarah**

Moses records that not only did Abram recognize his wife's beauty, others did too, *"the Egyptians saw that Sarai was a very beautiful woman."* (Genesis 12:14). Later, in the New Testament, Peter speaks about beauty and mentions Sarah (*1 Peter 3:3-6*).

Discuss present day culture's attitudes about "beauty". Alongside that discussion, give at least THREE principles about beauty from the Scriptures. The following passages may help in that discussion: Proverbs 11:22, Proverbs 31:30, Ecclesiastes 3:11, Song of Songs 1:10, Song of Songs 4:1, Song of Songs 4:7, Song of Songs 7:1, Song of Songs 7:6, Isaiah 52:7, Matthew 26:10, Philippians 4:8

## **The Father of Many Nations**

We are children of Abraham – people who have the same "faith" in God's grace as Abraham did. In what ways did Abraham make his faith (on the inside) present (on the outside)? How can we be like Abraham?