

### **For Further Study**

(Please use on your own, with a friend, or in your small group)

1. Sarah's response to God when she is promised Isaac is very different from Mary's response to the angel Gabriel when she is promised the baby Jesus. Yet, the responses of the two women also bear some similarities. Re-read Sarah's response in Genesis 18.9-15. Then go over to the New Testament Book of Luke and read Luke 1.26-38. What are the differences and what are the similarities between the two women?
2. Now think about your own life as a Christian today. What has been your response to God when you have sensed that He is making a promise to you through the Bible? Think about a time when you responded in obedience and another time when you responded in disobedience. What are the factors that made you respond one way or another?
3. Meditate (quietly re-read and think about) Psalm 139.1-5. Ask the Lord to search you and know you this week. What do you sense the Holy Spirit saying to you as you read this Psalm? Write down your reflections.
4. Are you on the path of obedience to God or disobedience from God? Think critically, and answer honestly. Re-fresh yourself in these Scriptures as you contemplate how to move off the path of disobedience to obedience (for all of us are in some way being disobedient to the Lord):

Luke 11.28; John 14.15, 15.9; Romans 2.6-8; 2 Corinthians 10.5; Ephesians 6.1-3; James 1.25; 1 Peter 1.14; 2 John 1.6; and Revelation 14.12

Share what you are learning with a friend and pray for one another.