

## Walking with God in the Dark Night of Your Soul

### Genesis 15

Abraham's life reveals **the responses believers can make** in the dark night of our souls to experience a new dimension of closeness to God.

- **Response #1: POUR OUT YOUR HEART TO GOD.**

<sup>1</sup>After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward." <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, "O Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, "You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir." Genesis 15:1-3 (NIV)

- Pour out your emotions to God.

*Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.*  
Psalm 62:8 (NIV)

- Pour out your questions to God.

*We have troubles all around us, but we are not defeated. We do not know what to do, but we do not give up the hope of living.* 2 Corinthians 4:8 (NCV)

- **Response #2: KEEP YOUR FOCUS ON GOD AND HIS WORD.** (Gen 15:1-3)

### Two Reasons Why God May Ask a Believer to Wait

- So that He receives the glory.

*Without weakening in his faith, he [Abraham] faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah's womb was also dead.* Romans 4:19 (NIV)

*"I am the LORD; that is my name! I will not give my glory to another or my praise to idols."* Isaiah 42:8 (NIV)

- To help His child depend upon Him.

*We were crushed and completely overwhelmed, and we thought we would never live through it. <sup>9</sup>In fact, we expected to die. But as a result, we learned not to rely on ourselves, but on God who can raise the dead.* 2 Cor 1: 8b, 9 (NLT, 1996)

- **Response #3: CHOOSE FAITH.**

<sup>5</sup>He took him outside and said, "Look up at the heavens and count the stars—if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." <sup>6</sup>Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness. Genesis 15:5-6 (NIV)

Faith = believing God and responding to His Word with obedience, regardless of feelings, circumstances or consequences

Believing that God loves you and has your best in mind is part of faith.

*The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your love, O LORD, endures forever. . .*  
Psalm 138:8 (NIV)

- **Response #4: LOOK FOR THE REASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE.**

<sup>7</sup>Then the LORD said to him, "I am the LORD, who led you out of Ur in Babylonia, to give you this land as your own." <sup>8</sup>But Abram asked, "Sovereign LORD, how can I know that it will be mine?" <sup>9</sup>He answered, "Bring me a cow, a goat, and a ram, each of them three years old, and a dove and a pigeon." <sup>10</sup>Abram brought the animals to God, cut them in half, and placed the halves opposite each other in two rows; but he did not cut up the birds. Genesis 15:7-10 (GNT)

*On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram and said, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates. . ."* Genesis 15:18 (NIV)