

## Focus Points

"Focus Points" are short activities that draw students into the lesson. They take only a few minutes to do. Many can be used as quick-start activities to engage the students and focus their attention at the beginning of class. Others may fit well during the lesson to reinforce a point and drive it home. Still others may serve as good wrap-up activities. "Focus Points" come in many forms. Choose and use them as you see fit.

### Focus Point – A Burial Place for Sarah

***Genesis 23:2*** And Sarah died at Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron) in the land of Canaan, and Abraham went in to mourn for Sarah and to weep for her. <sup>3</sup> And Abraham rose up from before his dead and said to the Hittites, <sup>4</sup> "I am a sojourner and foreigner among you; give me property among you for a burying place, that I may bury my dead out of my sight."

What will you do?

You are traveling with your family in a foreign country. Your mother becomes ill. Your father takes her to the closest hospital for treatment. Before anyone at the hospital will help your mother, they insist that your father give them a huge amount of cash. They claim that his medical insurance is no good, and they must have a cash payment before they will treat your mother. Your father can get the money, but it is more than clear that you are being taken advantage of as foreigners. You are in a predicament. What will you do?

Discuss this situation and then compare it with Abraham's situation in Genesis 23. Sarah died, and Abraham had to purchase a burying place in a land where they were strangers and sojourners. Abraham paid a very high price for it.

How is your situation similar to that of Abraham? How is it different? What kind of attitude did Abraham show throughout his negotiations with Ephron the Hittite? What can we learn from Abraham's attitude and conduct?

(This can also be used as a Life Application activity.)