

*The principle is that you have to GO before he will SHOW you how he is going to fulfill his plan in your life. Credit to Jonathan Evans and his message at PHC in January for making this observation.*

**STORY 1 – Abraham’s journey away from his home (Genesis 12-22)**

Genesis 12:1-3 Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

**STORY 2 – The Israelites cross the Red Sea (Exodus 3-14)**

Exodus 3:10-12 Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.” <sup>11</sup> But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?” <sup>12</sup> He said, “But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.”

Exodus 14:11 “Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you sent us out here to die?”

Exodus 14:15-16 The LORD said to Moses, “Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. <sup>16</sup> Lift up your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the people of Israel may go through the sea on dry ground.

Exodus 14:22 And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

**STORIES 3-4 – The Israelites fail and then succeed to enter the Promised Land (Numbers 13-14, Joshua 2-6)**

Failure – they would not GO.

Numbers 13:1-2 The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>2</sup> “Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the people of Israel. From each tribe of their fathers you shall send a man, every one a chief among them.”

Numbers 13:31 Then the men who had gone up with him said, “We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we are.”

Numbers 14:33 And your children shall be shepherds in the wilderness forty years and shall suffer for your faithlessness, until the last of your dead bodies lies in the wilderness.

Success – they did GO.

Joshua 2:1 And Joshua the son of Nun sent two men secretly from Shittim as spies, saying, “Go, view the land, especially Jericho.”

Joshua 2:23 Then the two men returned. They came down from the hills and passed over and came to Joshua the son of Nun, and they told him all that had happened to them. <sup>24</sup> And they said to Joshua, “Truly the LORD has given all the land into our hands. And also, all the inhabitants of the land melt away because of us.”

## Sermon Notes – Genesis 12:1-3

“Next, We Go”

Joshua 6:2-5 And the LORD said to Joshua, “See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor. <sup>3</sup>You shall march around the city, all the men of war going around the city once. Thus shall you do for six days. <sup>4</sup>Seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams’ horns before the ark. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. <sup>5</sup>And when they make a long blast with the ram’s horn, when you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a great shout, and the wall of the city will fall down flat...”

## STORY 5 – Gideon defeats the Midianites (Judges 6-8)

Judges 6:14-16 And the LORD turned to him and said, “Go in this might of yours and save Israel from the hand of Midian; do not I send you?” <sup>15</sup>And he said to him, “Please, Lord, how can I save Israel? Behold, my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father’s house.” <sup>16</sup>And the LORD said to him, “But I will be with you, and you shall strike the Midianites as one man.”

Judges 7:2 The LORD said to Gideon, “The people with you are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hand, lest Israel boast over me, saying, ‘My own hand has saved me.’

Judges 7:19, 22 “So Gideon and the hundred men who were with him came to the outskirts of the camp at the beginning of the middle watch, when they had just set the watch. And they blew the trumpets and smashed the jars that were in their hands... When they blew the 300 trumpets, the LORD set every man’s sword against his comrade and against all the army. And the army fled as far as Beth-shittah toward Zererah, as far as the border of Abel-meholah, by Tabbath.”

## STORY 6 – The disciples’ first mission (Luke 10:1-24)

Luke 10:1 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go.

Luke 10:9 Heal the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’

Luke 10: 17 The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!”

## STORY 7 – The great commission (Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1-2)

Matthew 28:18-20 And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Acts 1:14 All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

Acts 2:12-13 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. <sup>13</sup>And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying.

1 Thessalonians 1:5 “because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction.”

**For Reflection:** *Are you willing to go before you know exactly how God will work? Why or why not?*