

“The Call of Abram”

Genesis 12:1-20

For the week of January 3, 2021

Review of Key Principles of Genesis 1-11

As we prepare to dive into Genesis 12 and the story of Abram, let's look back one more time at the basic truths given in Genesis 1-11. These truths help us to understand the rest of Scripture.

1. God is real and we can trust Him.
2. We live in God's creation.
3. We are made in the image of God.
4. Obedience is the key to usefulness, joy, and blessing.
5. Satan is real but is a defeated enemy.
6. There is such a thing as sin.
 7. Sex is God's idea and He knows best how it should be used.
8. All humans are made of one blood.
9. Israel is God's chosen people.
10. God doesn't change and is always in control.
11. Our relationship with God is based on faith.
12. Living for God is the most rewarding life possible.

God Calls Abram

Read Genesis 12:1-3. List the five things God promised Abram in verses 1-3.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Consider the promises of God to Abram in the first three verses. What do they tell us about the power of God and what are the implications for us today?

What root word is repeated five times to indicate God's intention in His speech? Fast forward to your life. Identify and discuss some of the many blessings God has given to you and your family. Privately and during your group prayer time, give thanks to God for His many blessings!

An Example of Faith

If you were asked by God to leave your country and your family with no further direction, how would you respond?

There's an expression called "stepping out in faith." Give one example in your life where you "stepped out in faith." Looking back what did you learn from this experience? How was your faith impacted?

How did choosing Abram prepare the way for the Messiah (see Genesis 22:15-18)?

How did choosing Abram reveal his faith as an example to us (see Hebrews 11:8)? What is faith and what is faith not?

When you walk by faith, how do you know that God is with you and you need not be afraid (see 2 Timothy 4:16-17; Hebrews 13:5-7)?

Abram Obeys God

Read Genesis 12:4-9. How did Abram respond to God's promise? Why is this significant? What did Abram leave behind in order to follow God?

Read James 2:21-24. How is faith demonstrated by the way we live our lives? What are some examples of how your faith is evident by how you live?

Abram did not set out on his own. Who and what did he take with him? Is this an example of faith or an example not of faith? Explain!

What promise does God make to Abram in verse 7? How was this possible, given that Abram and Sarai were old? Jump ahead and explain how God fulfilled His promise?

Abram and Sarai in Egypt

Read Genesis 12:10-20. Abram asked Sarai to say that she was his sister. While this is deceitful, it was also true that she was his wife as well as his half-sister (see Genesis 20:12). So, was Abram wrong to ask Sarai to lie and was Sarai wrong to obey him?

What about Abram, if he perceived that his life was in danger, was he wrong to lie? Remember:

- Jewish midwives of Exodus lied to Pharaoh to protect Jewish children
- Rahab lied to conceal the Jewish spies
- David lied to a priest as he was leaving Israel

Explain your answer.

What can be determined about God from verses 16 and 17?

The story of Abram hiding his marriage from Pharaoh reveals Abram depending on himself and not on God. Fast forward to today: Why do we continue to take matters into our own hands regarding our circumstances or why do we make decisions without consulting and hearing from God? What is needed to change this?

How is depending on God in all circumstances an act of worship?