

SESSION 2

[Believing the Promise.]

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Abraham : Lesson 2 of 5 : MANUP.co

Genesis 12

¹ The LORD had said to Abram, *(later changed to Abraham)*

*“**Leave** your native country, your relatives, and your father’s family, and **go** to the land that I will show you.”*

² *“I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others.”*

³ *“I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you. All the families of the earth will be blessed through you.”*

⁴ So **Abram went** as the LORD had commanded . . .

Abram OBEYED because he BELIEVED.

Q: Have you ever doubted God?

Genesis 15

¹ Some time later, the LORD spoke to Abram in a vision and said to him, *“Do not be afraid, Abram, for I am your shield and your very great reward.”*

² But Abram replied,

“O Sovereign Lord, what good are all of your blessings when I don’t even have a son? Since you’ve given me no children, Eliezer my servant will be my heir.” Then the LORD said to him, *“No, your servant will not be your heir, for **you will have a son of your own** who will be your heir.”*

⁵ Then the LORD took Abram outside and said to him, *“Look up into the sky and count the stars if you can. That’s how many descendants you will have!”*

⁶ And Abram **believed** the LORD, and the LORD counted him as righteous because of his faith.

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Believe: Hebrew verb “aman” means - to trust, to be carried, to be certain, to be sure, to agree.

Q: Are you believing or doubting?

Genesis 15

⁷ Then the LORD told him, “**I am the LORD** who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as your possession.”

⁸ But Abram replied, “O Sovereign Lord, **how can I be sure** that I will actually possess it?”

TRUTH: Everyone has DOUBTS.

¹³ Then the Lord said to Abram, “**You can be sure** that your descendants will be strangers in a foreign land, where they will be oppressed as slaves for 400 years.”

¹⁴ “But I will punish the nation that enslaves them, and in the end they will come away with great wealth.”

¹⁷ After the sun went down and darkness fell, Abram saw a smoking fire-pot and a flaming torch pass between the halves of the carcasses. ¹⁸ So the **Lord made a covenant with Abram** that day and said,

“I have given this land to your descendants, all the way from the border of Egypt to the great Euphrates River.”

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Covenant: Hebrew “beriyth” means - to cut, to agree, to form an alliance. (Conditional / Unconditional)

**“Salvation isn’t something you DO
it’s something God DID.”**

Q: What do you believe about God?

PROBLEM: Many of us say we believe, but we don't know what we believe or how to be right with God.

What do Christians Believe?

Romans 3

¹⁰ **No one** is righteous - not even one. ²⁰ **No one** can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are.

²¹ ***But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law.***

²² We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for **everyone** who believes, no matter who we are. ²³ For **everyone** has sinned; we **all** fall short of God's glorious standard.

²⁴ Yet God, with undeserved kindness, declares that we are righteous. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty of sins. ²⁵ For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for our sin.

People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood.

²⁶ God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he declares sinners to be right in his sight when they believe in Jesus.

²⁷ Our acquittal is not based on obeying the law.
It is based on faith.

***"Salvation is based on
BELIEF not BEHAVIOR."***

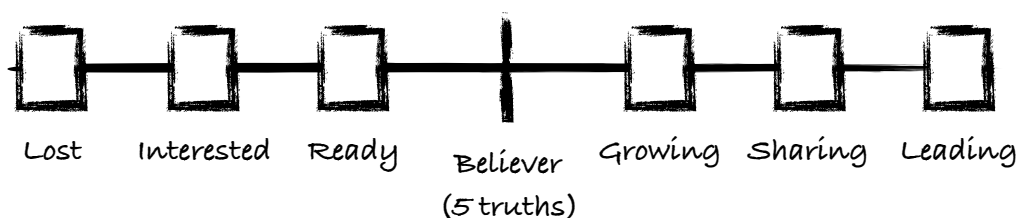
TRUTH: *There is nothing more important than what you believe about God.*

5 Truths you must Believe.

1. God is **PERFECT** and I am not.
2. My **GOOD** works will never be good enough to make me right with God.
3. My **BAD** works will never be bad enough to keep me from God's mercy and kindness.
4. God's **JUSTICE** requires payment for my sin.
5. God's **LOVE** provided the full and final payment for my sin through Jesus alone.

"Salvation is BELIEVING in Jesus and RECEIVING his free gift of Salvation."

Where are you right now on your Faith journey?



Discussion.

Q: Which of the 5 truths is **easy** for you to believe?

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Q: Which of the 5 truths is **hard** for you to believe?

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Q: What **questions** do you still have about Jesus?

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Prayer:

*God, thank you for what you're teaching me. Sometimes it's hard to believe the Good News of Jesus. It seems too good to be true, but you say it is. Help me **believe**.*

Help me replace my trying with trusting.

My doing with what you did.

My sin with your son.

Give me answers to my questions and resolution to my struggle. Give me your peace in exchange for my doubt.

Amen.