

- The pastor describes the interim season as a kind of desert experience where God's people encounter Him in new ways -- what desert seasons in your own life have ultimately deepened your understanding of who God is?
- Terah set out for Canaan but stopped halfway at Haran, and Scripture never fully explains why -- in what ways might we be tempted to settle for a halfway point when God is calling us to press on toward something greater?
- God called Abram to leave his country, his people, and his father's household before revealing the destination -- what does it reveal about the nature of faith that God often gives us only enough light to take the next step rather than the full picture?
- The pastor draws on the image of low beams versus high beams to describe how God guides us -- how does trusting God with low-beam vision challenge or change the way you approach uncertainty in your own life and calling?
- Genesis 12:4 begins with the three words 'so Abram went,' which the pastor calls one of the simplest and most profound statements in Scripture -- what areas of your life is God calling you to a similar moment of straightforward, uncomplicated obedience?
- The pastor argues that every pastor is ultimately an interim pastor because God alone is the constant shepherd of the church -- how does this perspective shift the way you think about leadership transitions, both in the church and in other areas of life?
- Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 3 that one plants, another waters, but God gives the increase -- how does this truth protect us from placing too much dependence on any single leader while also honoring the genuine contributions each person makes?
- The pastor connects Abraham's journey directly to the genealogy of Christ in Matthew, showing that small and seemingly finished stories are woven into a far larger redemptive narrative -- how does recognizing your own story as part of God's larger story change the way you experience endings and transitions?
- The sermon reminds us that every Good Friday gives way to Easter morning, and that even death is not the final word for those who believe -- how does the resurrection shape the way Christians are called to grieve losses, including the endings of meaningful seasons of life?
- The pastor reflects on how the congregation extended grace to him consistently throughout his time as interim -- in what practical ways can a church community cultivate a culture of grace that sustains both leaders and members through seasons of change?

Day 1: When God Calls You to Leave

Reading: Genesis 12:1-5 — God calls Abram to leave everything familiar and journey to an unknown land, promising blessing and a future beyond what Abram could see.

Devotional: There is something deeply unsettling about a call that offers no map. God told Abram to leave his country, his people, and his father's household — every layer of identity and security he had built over a lifetime. Yet Abram went. He did not negotiate. He did not demand a detailed itinerary. He simply obeyed. Most of us want the full picture before we take the first step. We want to see the destination before we leave the driveway. But God rarely works that way. He gives us enough light for the next step, not the entire journey. Consider what familiar thing God may be calling you to release today — a comfort, a habit, a season of life — and ask whether your response looks more like hesitation or like those three simple words: so Abram went.

Reflection Questions:

- What familiar comfort or security are you holding onto that may be keeping you from moving forward in obedience?
- Where in your life is God asking you to trust Him with low beams rather than demanding high beams?

Practical Application: Write down one area of your life where you sense God calling you toward change. Spend five minutes in prayer surrendering that area to Him, asking for the faith to take the next step even without seeing the full destination.

Day 2: God Plans Every Ending and Every Beginning

Reading: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 — A reflection on the reality that every aspect of human life moves through appointed seasons, each one ordained by God.

Devotional: We do not naturally grieve endings well. We tend to either rush past them, pretending they do not hurt, or we cling to them so tightly that we resist the beginning God has already prepared. Ecclesiastes reminds us that seasons are not accidents. They are appointments. Terah set out for Canaan and stopped in Haran. His story ended there. Then God spoke to Abram and a new chapter began. The ending of one season was not a failure — it was the threshold of something God had already planned. The same is true for every transition in your life. The job that ended, the relationship that changed, the chapter that closed — none of it surprised God. He was already preparing the next thing. Your role is not to understand every season but to remain faithful within it.

Reflection Questions:

- What ending in your life have you struggled to accept as part of God's larger plan?

- How might God be using a current season of transition to prepare you for what comes next?

Practical Application: Think of a season in your past that felt like a loss but eventually revealed God's faithfulness. Write two or three sentences about what that season taught you about His character. Return to those sentences whenever the current season feels uncertain.

Day 3: Faithfulness in the In-Between

Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:5-9 — Paul reminds the Corinthian church that different servants plant and water, but it is God alone who brings the growth.

Devotional: One of the most freeing truths in all of Scripture is that we are not responsible for the harvest — only for our faithfulness. Paul makes clear that the one who plants and the one who waters are each doing necessary work, but neither one is the source of growth. God is. This is profoundly relevant during seasons of transition, when it can feel as though nothing is happening, as though the work of one season is being undone or forgotten. It is not. Every prayer prayed, every act of service rendered, every word of encouragement offered during an in-between season is seed planted or water poured. You may not see the fruit. Someone else may. That is not failure. That is faithfulness, and God honors it.

Reflection Questions:

- Are you currently in a season where you are planting without seeing any visible growth?
- How does understanding your role as a fellow worker with God change the way you view your daily acts of faithfulness?

Practical Application: Identify one person in your life who planted spiritual seed in you — a teacher, a pastor, a parent, a friend. Reach out to them this week with a word of gratitude. Then ask God to show you who you may be planting into right now, even without realizing it.

Day 4: The Constant in Every Season

Reading: Hebrews 13:7-8 — A call to remember faithful leaders who have gone before, while anchoring every generation in the unchanging nature of Jesus Christ.

Devotional: Leaders come and go. Seasons shift. Congregations change. Communities grow and decline and are renewed. But Hebrews anchors every generation of believers in a truth that does not shift with the seasons: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. This is not a passive comfort. It is an active foundation. Every pastor is, in one sense, an interim. Every human leader serves for a season and then passes the baton. What does not pass is the Good Shepherd who leads the church from generation to generation. When transitions feel disorienting, when familiar faces are gone and new ones have not yet become familiar, return to the foundation. Christ has not changed. His purposes have not changed. His love for His church has not changed. Build on that, and no transition can shake you.

Reflection Questions:

- In what ways have you been tempted to anchor your spiritual stability in a person, a program, or a season rather than in Christ Himself?
- How does the unchanging nature of Christ give you confidence as you face an uncertain future?

Practical Application: Find a quiet moment today to sit with Hebrews 13:8 and simply meditate on what it means that Christ does not change. Journal your response to this question: Because Jesus is the same, what can I count on today that I could not count on if He were not?

Day 5: Your Story Is Part of a Larger Story

Reading: Matthew 1:1-17 — The genealogy of Jesus Christ traces the line of faith from Abraham forward, weaving together generations of ordinary, faithful, and sometimes broken people into the redemptive story of God.

Devotional: Matthew's genealogy is not just a list of names. It is a declaration that God works through generations, through seasons, through endings and beginnings, to accomplish His redemptive purposes. Abraham is there. So are people who failed, people who doubted, people who wandered. And at the end of the line stands Jesus, the fulfillment of every promise made to every generation. Your story is not separate from this story. At some point in your life, God called you into it. The chapter you are living right now — the transition, the uncertainty, the hope, the grief — is a page in a story far larger than your own. Every Good Friday gives way to Easter morning. Every ending in God's economy is the threshold of a resurrection. Live your chapter faithfully, knowing that the Author has already written the final word, and it is very good.

Reflection Questions:

- How does seeing yourself as a participant in God's larger redemptive story change the way you view your current season of life?
- What would it look like to live your daily life with the awareness that your faithfulness today is connected to something God is doing across generations?

Practical Application: Spend time this week writing a brief account of how God has worked in your life across different seasons. Note the endings that felt final and the beginnings that followed. Share this account with someone younger in the faith as an act of passing on the story.