



New Beginnings: Answering God's Call
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GENESIS 12:1-3 NIV

The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.

**“I will make you into a great nation,
and I will bless you;**

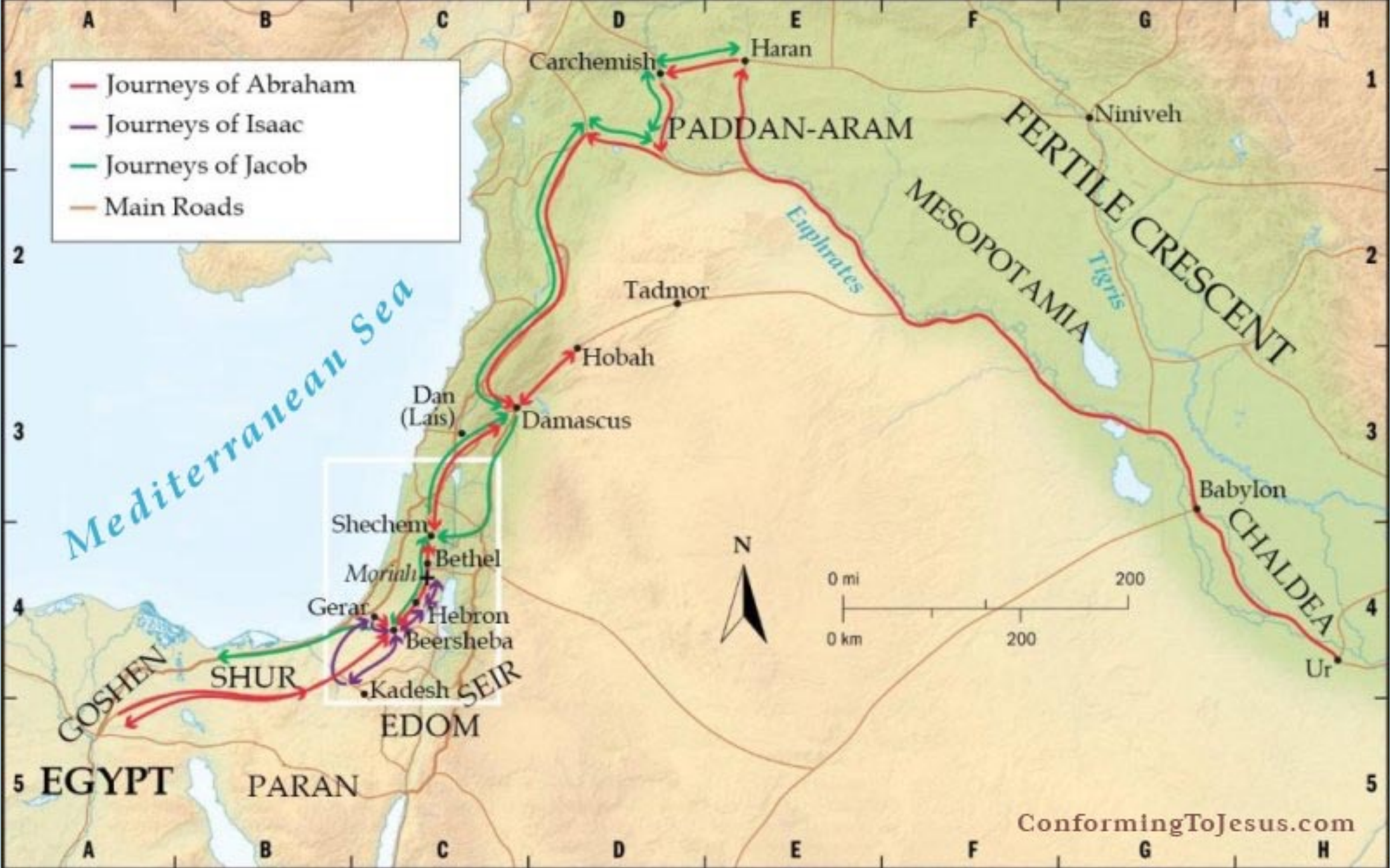
**I will make your name great,
and you will be a blessing.**

**I will bless those who bless you,
and whoever curses you I will curse;**

and all peoples on earth

will be blessed through you.”

**GOD'S CALL CAN BE
UNCOMFORTABLE**



**ABRAM LEFT BEHIND
SECURITY**

ISAIAH 55:8-9 NIV

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,”

declares the Lord.

“As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways

and my thoughts than your thoughts.

GENESIS 12:4-5 NIV

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran. He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.

GENESIS 12:6-9 NIV

Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. The Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the Lord, who had appeared to him.

GENESIS 12:6-9 NIV

From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the Lord and called on the name of the Lord.

Then Abram set out and continued toward the Negev.

**GOD DESERVES PRAISE
IN EVERY SEASON**

PSALM 42:5 NIV

**Why, my soul, are you
downcast?**

**Why so disturbed within
me?**

**Put your hope in God,
for I will yet praise him,
my Savior and my God.**

I KINGS 19:15-16 NIV

The Lord said to him, “Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet.

**GOD'S CALL CAN COME
THROUGH CRISIS**

I KINGS 19:19-20 NIV

So Elijah went from there and found Elisha son of Shaphat. He was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen, and he himself was driving the twelfth pair. Elijah went up to him and threw his cloak around him. Elisha then left his oxen and ran after Elijah. “Let me kiss my father and mother goodbye,” he said, “and then I will come with you.”

I KINGS 19:20-21 NIV

**“Go back,” Elijah replied.
“What have I done to you?”
So Elisha left him and went
back. He took his yoke of
oxen and slaughtered them.
He burned the plowing
equipment to cook the
meat and gave it to the
people, and they ate. Then
he set out to follow Elijah
and became his servant.**

**OBEDIENCE CAN MEAN
LEAVING AN OLD CALLING BEHIND**

ISAIAH 43:18-19 NIV

**“Forget the former things;
do not dwell on the past.
See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you
not perceive it?
I am making a way in the
wilderness
and streams in the
wasteland.**

**BE READY TO SEE A NEW THING
IN YOUR LIFE!**

MATT. 9:9-10 NIV

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples.

**MATTHEW LEFT BEHIND
FINANCIAL STABILITY**

MATTHEW 6:25-34 NIV

APPLICATION

- **God often calls His people to new things. Are you listening, ready to hear a word from God? Or are you attached more firmly to the things that are familiar.**
- **God's new path can mean less security. God doesn't always call us to the safest most intuitive path. Starting a business, joining a mission field, or changing where you live... each come with more risk than doing nothing.**
- **God's new path often means setting down an old one. Are we willing to set down a good thing for God's best in our lives?**

APPLICATION

- **God's new path can mean less financial abundance. Are we willing to turn over our finances, our financial abundance to do what God would have us do?**
- **Lastly, are we truly seeking first the Kingdom of God? Above all else, that must be the end result in our lives!**