

Message: "Abraham Week 1: Trusting God for the Journey"

Scripture: Genesis 12

"Now, faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith, our ancestors received approval." Hebrews 11:1-2

"By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised as in a foreign land, living in tents as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations whose architect and builder is God." Hebrews 11:8-10

"All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and aliens on the earth. For people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is they desire a better country; that is, a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God." Hebrews 11:13-16

"Now, the Lord said to Abraham, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land I will show you. 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. I will bless those who bless you; and the one who curses you, I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' So Abraham went, as the Lord went with him, and Lot went with him. Abraham was 75 years old when he departed from Haran. Abraham took his wife Sarai and his brother's son, Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered and the persons whom they'd acquired in Haran, and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abraham passed through the land to the place at Shechem to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the Land. Then the Lord appeared to Abraham and said, 'To your offspring I will give this land.' So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east, and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord. And Abraham journeyed on by stages toward the Negev." Genesis 12:1-9

PEOPLE OF FAITH...

1. LEARN TO HOLD THINGS LOOSELY.

"Go from your country and your kindred, and your father's house to the land I will show you." Genesis 12:1

2. SEE THE SHEER GOODNESS OF GOD.

"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. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you, I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." Genesis 12:2-3

3. BECOME ALTAR BUILDERS.

"Then the Lord appeared to Abraham and said, 'To your offspring I will give this land!' So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country

on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east, and there he built an altar to the Lord and called on the name of the Lord." Genesis 12:7-8

4. ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR FEET OF CLAY.

"Abraham believed God, and God credited it to him as righteousness." Genesis 15:6