

God Called Abram

Genesis 12:1-20

Faith Portal Church

ADULT

Unit 7 Lesson 1

Supplemental Texts

Gen 11:22-32

Focus Verse

“Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee.” – Genesis 12:1

Introduction

The Lord confused the language of the people on earth at Babel when they refused to scatter all over the earth. The descendants of the three sons of Noah had increased surely. Terah was of the lineage of Shem, the oldest of the three sons of Noah. Terah was the father of Abram, Nahor, and Haran. Abram had a wife whose name was Sarai, but she had no child. Terah took Abram, his grandson Lot (Haran's son), and Sarai, and they moved from Ur to the land of Canaan.

Deeper Look

Get Thee Out Of Thy Country – Gen 12:1-9

We are not given the details of God's encounter with Abram, but we believe the encounter must have been miraculous. The call of God to Abram would cause him to be utterly separated from his father's house. However, blessings were packed into that very call: a land for his future posterity, a great nation of him, and through him all the people of the earth will be blessed. Soon after the Lord had spoken, Abram prepared and embarked on his journey to the promised land with his wife Sarai, nephew Lot, servants, and properties. So, Abram entered the land of Canaan from the north (Galilee) until he reached Sichem or Shechem. At that time, Abram could not take possession of the land at once because the Canaanites were in the land (Heb 11:9). In a vision in Sichem, God assured Abram of the promised land, and He believed and raised an altar unto the Lord. Clearly, Abram was a friend of God as evident in his building of altars to the Lord (vv. 7-8).

And There Was A Famine In The Land – Gen 12:10-20

In the face of a severe famine, Abram went to live in Egypt for a while. But just before they arrived there, Abram told his wife Sarai that she was a beautiful woman. He added that he would be killed by the Egyptian men because of Sarai unless she agreed to say that she was his sister. His fear that the Egyptians might take his wife from him revealed his weakness and doubt in the divine protection. It is a comfort that the Bible gives us the flaws and strengths of the Saints. For Abram to avoid the situation, he planned with Sarai to not declare the whole truth (Gen 20:12).

Questions

1. What was the name of Abram's father and which country was Abram from?
2. Why did Abram leave the land he was born in? Was there any reason for that? Explain.
3. Explain what God meant when He told Abram, "And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee." How was the promise important to Abram?
4. The overarching of God's declarations to Abram was, "And in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." What is the significance of this statement? In your own opinion, do you think Abram understood this declaration at the time?
5. Abram arrived in the land of Canaan, but the Canaanites were still living there. How would Abram feel about that and what would that mean for him?
6. Why did Abram go to Egypt? Was he supposed to go there? What was his fear and how did he plan to deal with it before entering into Egypt?
7. How did God defend Abram in Egypt?
8. What virtues were evidenced in the life of Abram? What are the benefits of these virtues to Christians?

Personal Meditation

Have you ever visualized traveling on unknown routes to an unknown destination under the direction of a trustworthy but unseen being? Doing so will definitely necessitate much faith and obedience on your part to arrive at the desired point. Undoubtedly, you will experience a lot of anxiety in the process. To be pragmatic, you would most likely not embark on the journey at all to remain in your comfort zone. But as for Abram, he did boldly take on the charge. He obeyed God without questioning Him. Would it have been fair for him to ask God where exactly He was leading him? Without doubt, it would be fair.

To understand why Abram simply obeyed, we must realize that he had encountered the true God, the Creator of heaven and earth, and had accepted Him. As a result, it was easier for him to trust God. No wonder Jesus said, My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me – John 10:27. Is your mind made up to follow God anywhere He leads you? Wherever He leads will always be the best place for you to be and thrive. Learn from the father of faith.

DAILY STUDY

Monday	Gen 12:1-3
Tuesday	Gen 12:4-6
Wednesday	Gen 12:7-10
Thursday	Gen 12:11-13
Friday	Gen 12:14-17
Saturday	Gen 12:18-20



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