

Chapter 11 ended with the introduction of Abram who will become the focal point of Genesis for the next few chapters. Chapter 12 assumes we've just read that Abram, who was from Ur, began his journey to the land of Canaan, but stopped short in Haran. It's here, in this settlement, that Abram receives the foundational call of God on his life.

Genesis 12:1-20

The Call of Abram

I. COMPARING OUR STORIES

MY EXPERIENCE...

YOUR EXPERIENCE...

Following Christ involves great risk requiring faith. This faith journey may require us to sacrifice our time, our reputation, or our selfish dreams, reputation, or finances. In some cases, it's all of this and more. While walking in faith may not be an easy venture, when our perspective is right, it truly is totally worth it.

II. CONSIDERING OUR STRUGGLES

HOW would you define faith?

WHAT words would you use to describe it your personal faith in God?

SHARE how your faith has been challenged and/or reinforced throughout life.

IF someone were to ask you what it looks like to walk faithfully with the Lord, **HOW** would you respond?

Genesis 12:1-20

The Call of Abram

Read Genesis 12:1-20

OBSERVATION

What did the Lord say to Abram in vs. 1-3? What did He ask him to leave and where did He say He would send him?

What promises did God offer to Abram in vs. 1-3?

What do you observe regarding Abram's response in vs. 4?

Who went with Abram (vs. 5)?

Who was living in the land of which he was to enter (vs. 6)?

In verse 7 what promise does the Lord offer Abram and how does Abram respond?

What takes place in vs. 10 and how does Abram respond?

Why does Abram's wife, Sarai, pose a problem?

How does Abram choose to deal with Sarai and what is the outcome?

INTERPRETATION

In what tense are God's promises given to Abram in vs. 1-3? What significance does this bring to the passage?

Why do you think Abram doesn't ask questions or clarification for the Lord's command? What does this say about his view of God? Consider insight from Hebrews 11:8-10.

Why does Abram build an altar to the Lord in vs. 7? What purpose does this serve?

When the land experiences a famine, what does Abram's response reveal about his view of God? How is his attitude made even more clear upon considering the "obstacle" Sarai, his wife, poses?

How does God show His faithfulness to Abram in vs. 16-17 despite Abram's attempt to take matters into his own hands?

Would you call Abram's attempt to conceal Sarai's identity a lie or is he justified in what he does? Explain.

Why do you think Pharaoh is more aware of the sin committed than Abram?

APPLICATION

How would you characterize your faith in the Lord?

When it comes to God's plans for your life, how does your self-reliance show itself? When it does, how do you respond?