

GROWTHguide

"Blind Obedience"

January 14, 2018



THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Genesis 12:1-9, Genesis 26:1-3, Hebrews 11:8-16,
Genesis 12:1-3

DAY 1

Read Genesis 12:1

- What do you notice about God's invitation for Abram?
- Think about a time when someone asked you to do something you weren't expecting. What was going on? How did you react?
- Reflect on God's invitation and think about what it would cost Abram to follow.

DAY 2

Read Genesis 12:1-9

Genesis 12 gives us the impression Abram received his call while he was living in Haran, but a closer look says otherwise.

- Compare [ACTS 7:1-4](#) with [Genesis 11:27-32](#). What do you observe?
- From what is written, Abram seems to be passive about being led to Canaan versus having undeniable faith. What gives credence to this thought?

Pastor Bob said on Sunday that the call of Abram was more of a 'leave and cleave.' He is to choose God over anything else.

- Why is it hard to surrender to God, no matter what
- In what ways do you find yourself struggling with this?
- God often asks us to leave the comfort of the known in pursuit of the unknown. Why do you think God chooses to do that versus simply ask us to do what we are comfortable with?

DAY 3

Read Genesis 26:1-3

When Abram reached the Negev, the southern part of Canaan, he encountered a severe famine. He concluded he must leave the Promised Land and wait out the famine in Egypt.

- What clues do you have that this was an act of obedience and faith? Or, was it Abram taking the least path of resistance to avoid the hardships before him?
- It would seem that Abram was to remain in Canaan, where God had promised to prosper him but he chose not to. Why?
- Think about a time when you should have believed in a promise but when things got a little troublesome you pushed the promise aside and took the least path of resistance. How did the situation work out for you?

DAY 4

Read Hebrews 11:8-16

This passage celebrates Abraham and Sarah's journey of faith, but also recognizes its unfinished character. Their pilgrimage becomes one of faith and hope in the promises, but they do not live to see their fulfillment (**see ACTS 7:2-5**).

- How does the faith of Abraham and Sarah become a metaphor of the Christian life?
- How does this parallel a journey that reaches out toward a promised future but comes up short of final fulfillment within one's own lifetime?
- In light of this example, how can people of faith realize that hope never becomes obsolete?

DAY 5

Read Genesis 12:2-3

There are three levels of blessing in this passage:

- **God will bless Abram and his family - when they are faithful to him.** How does this relate to you and your family? In what ways are you experiencing God's blessing out of your faithfulness?
- **Abram and his family will be a blessing - because of their position of favor with God.** How is your family taking the steps to ensure they bring blessing and not harm to others? In what ways are others experiencing your blessings?
- **Through Abram and his family all the people will receive blessing from God - this is the unconditional part. God's blessing cannot be deterred.** How are people experiencing God's love and grace through you as evidence as your being blessed by God?

DAY 6

Spend some time in prayer and ask God to fill you with hope and faith. Seek his guidance and ask him to help you surrender obediently to his will. Thank him for all the blessings he has poured out for you, and all the future blessings you will receive.