

# *the* Purpose *and* Promises of God

## The Call of Abram

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### Summary

The name of Abraham appears in numerous places throughout the Bible. Without question, as evidenced by the space dedicated to his life and the number of times and places his name appears, Abraham is the quintessential example of faith in the Scriptures. However, there should be no mistaking that the life of Abraham teaches us, God's people, about the promises and the purpose of God through the study of his life of faith.

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### Outline

#### Introduction

Genesis 12 is another step forward in God's redemptive plan. Though God's call certainly benefits Abram it really isn't about Abram at all. It's about God's purpose in this world as he promises his blessing to all families of the earth in Jesus Christ.

1. God's Call [v1]

Genesis 12 begins with the command to "go." God called Abram into an active journey of faith. Abram must leave what he knows and enter the unknown. Even his destination is unclear. God calls him to trust and go.

2. God's Promises [v2-3]

Though this journey of faith is absent of details it is not void of promise. God gives Abram seven promises to hold onto as he journeys forward in faith. These promises confront the mess that is described in Genesis 3-11.

### 3. Abram's Response [v4-9]

In significant faith, Abram "went, as the LORD had told him." He obeyed as he trusted God with the outcome. Not only did Abram move forward but he also continued to worship God along the way.

Thoughts for my Personal Journey...

1. What is similar and what is different between God's call to Abram and God's call to you? Did Abram have it easier or more difficult than Christians do today in knowing and obeying God's will? Explain.
2. What would be one of the most difficult things God has, or could, ask you to do? Why is that so difficult for you?
3. What step of faith is God putting in front of you as you move forward in your own faith journey? Is there an obedience issue in your path such as a sin to fight or something else God wants you to do? What Scripture supports that thought?
4. When God asks us to do something he also gives promises as to what he will do. What promises from God can you lean on as you step forward in faith this week?
5. Just as Abram had obstacles in his way (Sarai couldn't have children and the Canaanites were in the land) there are often obstacles in our way. What obstacles are in the way of you taking a step of faith this week? How can you pray in regard to those obstacles?
6. How can you ask for accountability and encouragement from others as you take a personal step of faith in the weeks ahead?