

GENESIS 12

- 1 The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you.
- 2 "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you;
- I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.
- 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."
- 4 So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran. 5 He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there. 6 Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. 7 The Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the Lord, who had appeared to him. 8 From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the Lord and called on the name of the Lord. 9 Then Abram set out and continued toward the Negev.

WEEK 1: WHAT'S YOUR NEXT LEVEL

In a world that presents us with multiple options, we are constantly posed with choices. One of the most important choices we will make in our spiritual lives is choosing to take next steps. As a family of faith with a vision for the future, we will discuss the four crucial choices we must make to level up in our Christian life. We will look into some parts of Abraham's steps of faith. Today, we are looking into Abraham's calling.

SCRIPTURE Genesis 12

OBSERVATION

- An invitation to a fresh start for Abram.
 - 1. Why do you think God didn't tell Abram up front where he would be going?
 - 2. Why did God not invite Abram's entire clan?
 - 3. In what ways is this very first experience between God and Abram representative of every believer's experience with God?

A promise full of blessings.

- 1. Name the promises God made to Abram in (Gen. 12:2-3, 7).
- 2. How many of God's promises did Abram get to experience in his own lifetime?
- A requirement of complete obedience.
 - 1. Genesis 12 is the first time Abraham heard God's voice. Why do you think did he obey without question?
 - 2. How certain would you be that your conviction is God's voice? Do you think he would really tell you to do something so disruptive and inconvenient?
 - 3. In what ways, if any, does this scenario reflect the life of faith for everyone?

• Awareness of new challenges.

- 1. The Bible says Abram and Sarai came from Ur of Chaldea, and they traveled Canaan. What kind of challenges do you think did they face traveling?
- 2. Read verse 6. What kind of challenge does this pose on Abram?

A call for consistency.

- 1. Abram consistently obeyed the Word of the Lord despite all the odds. What do you think does pitching his tent imply?
- 2. In what 3 places did Abram build altars? And what was the significance of that? Why do you think Abram built altars instead of using the shrines already present at each spot?

APPLICATION

- Pastor Jon's sermon points:
 - 1. YOUR NEXT LEVEL IS A FRESH START (verse 1)
 - 2. YOUR NEXT LEVEL IS FULL OF BLESSINGS (verses 2-3)
 - 3. YOUR NEXT LEVEL REQUIRES COMPLETE OBEDIENCE (verses 4-5)
 - 4. YOUR NEXT LEVEL INVOLVES NEW CHALLENGES (verse 6)
 - 5. YOUR NEXT LEVEL CALLS FOR CONSISTENCY (verses 7-9)
- If you were Abram, what would you say about the lack of specifics in God's calling? How do you think your friends and family would react to your sense of calling? Would any of them be supportive? Would any of them try to talk you out of it?
- Your next level may not look as drastic as God's call to Abram, but it does require
 the same level of faith, obedience and consistency. What do you think is your
 Next Level of faith?