

# 4

## Abraham: Following God's Call

### *Genesis 12*

Why am I alive? Where am I going? What does life add up to? Throughout our lives we feel a deep longing to understand our unique purpose—whether we are teenagers graduating from high school, college students contemplating careers, mothers with growing children, people at midlife or seniors in retirement.

**GROUP DISCUSSION.** What are some of the feelings and struggles you have as you think about being called by Jesus, to Jesus and for Jesus?

**PERSONAL REFLECTION.** What are one or two factors that hinder you from consistently trusting in God's promises?

Imagine that you are seventy-five years old and God tells you to leave your country, your way of life and your family to serve him in a place where no believer has ever visited. You do not have any friends in that country and must entrust yourself completely to God. Two more minor details: you will neither see the fruit of your labors nor return home alive. How would you respond? In Genesis 12 we observe God calling Abraham to such a mission. *Read Genesis 12.*

---

1. What does God command and promise Abram (vv. 1-3)?

2. Abram heard the call of God while he was serving other gods in Ur. What might have been his initial fears and reservations?

---

3. How did God's command to forsake all—country, people and family—require complete confidence in his promises?

---

4. God asked Abram to give up something great for something far greater. How is that also true in our experience as Christians?

---

5. Describe Abram's response to God's call (vv. 4-6).

---

6. Why do you think God reassured Abram in Canaan (v. 7)?

---

7. What are some ways that God "appears" to you (encourages you) as you follow him?

---

8. What effect does the famine appear to have on Abram (v. 10)?

9. What sins does Abram commit in verses 11-16?

---

10. How do crises and negative circumstances tend to affect your faith in and obedience to God? (Give an example, if possible.)

---

11. How does God intervene to put Abram back on track (vv. 17-20)?

---

12. In light of Abram's place in God's plan of salvation, what might have been the consequences if he had lost sight of God's call and remained in Egypt?

---

13. How might your obedience, or lack of it, have far-reaching implications in the lives of those around you?

---

*Pray God would give you courage to follow the unique path and direction he has laid out for you.*

### **Now or Later**

Meditate on Colossians 3:23. How would your life be different if you did "whatever you do" for the Lord, and not for others?