

## GENESIS 12:1–5, “ROLL CALL OF FAITH: ABRAHAM”

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

<sup>4</sup>So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup>And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan.

*Discussion Questions (Choose a manageable number to discuss)*

1. Pastor Jeff Brewer discussed three aspects of Abraham’s faith in God and applied them to our lives today: (1) Obeying God’s commands by faith; (2) Believing God’s promises by faith; and (3) Understanding God’s revelation by faith.

What does it mean today to obey God’s commands by faith? To believe God’s promises by faith? To understand God’s revelation by faith?

2. Abram’s obedience to God’s commands shows us much about faith.
  - a. What were some of the difficulties alluded to in our Genesis text for Abram and Sarai in obeying God’s commands?
  - b. What were some of the possible barriers to fulfillment of God’s commands to Abram?
  - c. What are some examples of difficulties from your own life as you look back on your walk with God?
3. Did God invite Abram’s input in shaping His plans for Abram? How do we sometimes try to bargain with God in discerning His will for our lives?
4. In Gen 12:2-3, we have a seven-fold structure of God’s promises to Abram. What were those promises? What are some ways those promises have been fulfilled?
5. What do we learn in Heb 11:8-10, 13 about Abram’s experience with God’s promises? Can you share examples from your own life of that discipline of receiving promises by faith?
6. How did God reveal Himself and His plans to Abram in Gen 12:1-3? How does God primarily reveal Himself to us today?
7. Abram had to believe that God knew where He was taking him; he had to trust that God knew what He was doing.
  - a. Is God trustworthy? Are you willing to trust God for His direction in your life?
  - b. What if your path or present situation has been of your own sinful making? Can God still use you and reveal Himself to you? What Bible verses give you proof of that?
8. Pastor Brewer cited the example of a telemarketer who had offered him “a free trip anywhere in the world,” leaving Pastor Brewer wondering, “Where is the catch?” How do you sometimes approach the discerning of God’s will looking for a “catch,” or a reason that God’s revelation and promises just can’t be completely true as presented?
9. Pastor Brewer offered 3 questions to ask of ourselves as a measure of whether we are following God by faith. You are invited to reflect prayerfully on your own answers to these questions.
  - a. Do I have a faith that is growing in a desire to obey God?
  - b. Do I believe God’s promises? How will you choose this week to study to know His promises? (*You cannot believe that which you do not know.*)
  - c. Am I seeking to understand who God is?