

- You will be a blessing
- I will bless those who bless you
- Whoever curses you I will curse
- All peoples on earth will be blessed through you.

2. Trust God Even When His _____ Seems _____.

GENESIS 12:1: “The Lord had said to Abram, “Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you.”

HEBREWS 11:8: “By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.”

GENESIS 12:4-5: “So Abram left, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran. ⁵ He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.”

KEY QUESTIONS:

- *Why doesn’t God reveal our entire itinerary to us?*
- *Why does His plan seem unclear at times?*

ANSWER: God wants us to TRUST Him and fully rely upon Him. Trust is saying, *‘I’m unsure of how God will work out the details, but I trust he will because he called me and gave me His promise(s).*

The Myth of Perfect Trust

Abram (Abraham) trusted God, but he also had moments of unbelief. We rightly consider him a ‘hero of the faith’, but even heroes are human and their faith is prone to falter.

What are some key areas where we see Abram’s lack of trust?

ABRAHAM’S FALTERING FAITH

- **Failure to Trust God and _____ leave _____ (Gen.12:1; 11:31-32; 12:4; 13:1).**

GENESIS 12:1: “The Lord had said to Abram, “Leave your country, your people and your father’s household...”

ACTS 7:1-4: “Then the high priest asked him, “Are these charges true?” ²To this he replied: “Brothers and fathers, listen to me! The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham while he was still in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran. ³Leave your country and your people,’ God said, ‘and go to the land I will show you.’ ⁴“So he left the land of the Chaldeans and settled in Haran. After the death of his father, God sent him to this land where you are now living.”

GENESIS 12:4: “So Abram left, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.”

KEY QUESTION: *What’s your ‘lot’ in life?*

- **Failure to Trust God’s _____ (Genesis 12:2-3,10-20).**

GENESIS 12:2: “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.”

- **Failure to Trust God for _____ (Genesis 12:3,10-20).**

GENESIS 12:3: “I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

FINAL THOUGHTS

What do you need to trust God for today?

Whatever it is, know that God is trustworthy even when we lack complete trust.

PROVERBS 3:5-6: “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.”

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

WELCOME: As we begin a new season of small groups please take time to introduce yourselves to each other.

PRAYER: Take some time to pray for each other's needs.

1. What did you learn from Sunday's message regarding the subject of "trusting God?"
2. What are some areas in your life that you have to trust God? What areas are you struggling to trust Him?
3. Abram was called by God to leave his country, people and fathers house (Genesis 12:1). Has God been calling you to do something specific? What keeps you from obeying and fully trusting him?
4. When you have a hard time trusting God, what can be done to develop more trust? What did Abraham have from God that encouraged him to trust? (See Genesis 12:2-3).
5. What are *the promises of God* that you cling to when you need to trust Him?
6. Are you a person who needs to see the entire plan before you move ahead, or are you content with seeing only one step at a time? As you answer this question, take time to interact with Hebrews 11:8; Genesis 12:1.
7. Why does God seem to wait to reveal the next step of his plan until we have taken a step forward by faith? Can you give an example of this in your own life?
8. Take some time to discuss the three ways Abram (Abraham) failed to trust God in Genesis 12-13 (See message notes). How does his failure to trust God perfectly give you encouragement today?

Prayer: Take time to pray for specific needs in your group.

HEROES OF THE FAITH: Lessons From the Lives of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob & Joseph
Today's Message: "Trusting God" Genesis 12-13
01.11.09 / SMC / Pastor Cory Anderson

INTRODUCTION:

1. Trust God Even When His _____ Feels _____.

GENESIS 12:1: "The Lord had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you."

God called Abraham (Abram) to **leave** the _____ and **go to** the _____.

LEAVE: What you know and love

GO TO: A place you do not know and love

Your Country
Your People
Your Father's Household

To the land I will show you.

KEY QUESTION: *What do you do when God's plan feels painful?*

ANSWER: Remember the _____ of God.

GENESIS 12:2-3: "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. ³I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

GOD'S 7 PROMISES TO ABRAHAM

- I will make you into a great nation
- I will bless you
- I will make your name great