



GOD CALLS ABRAM

GENESIS 12: 1-9



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It would be hard to overstate the significance of Genesis chapter 12. In the overarching story of the Bible, it is a massive trajectory changing moment. A world and a people that started off so good and right and perfect has been on a downward spiral ever since man rebelled against God in the garden and sin and death entered the picture in Genesis 3. From there, the next 9 chapters of Genesis read like a "low-light" reel of the effects of sin & the devastation that results when mankind chooses our way over God's way. By the end of chapter 11, all hope of God redeeming & restoring the world appears to be growing dim.

Until Genesis 12! When the entire storyline of the Bible takes a turn toward hope. What

God, Thank you that You are a Faithful God who makes good on all Your Promises. Would You help us to be a people who are quick to obey and respond to Your invitation to follow where You lead—even when it requires great faith and a leaving behind of places of comfort & security for us? Help us trust that You will lead and guide and make good on all Your promises the same way You did for Abraham. Bring Your blessing, bring Your kingdom, through us and our faithful obedience, we pray. Amen.

"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.'"

Genesis 12: 1

happens? God shows up! He shows up to a man named Abram holding out an invitation. It is an invitation that would require great faith (leaving behind everything he knows & everything he has to follow God to a place that is unknown). But it is also an invitation that God promises will result in great blessing - not just for Abram - but for the entire world (vs. 2 & 3). We read in vs. 4: "So Abram went." Responding in obedience, he leaves everything behind & follows God by faith--fully convinced that He will lead, guide, and make good on His promise of blessing.

Which He does, some 2000 years later, as THIS trajectory-changing moment culminates in a greater one...when, once again, God shows up! This time not TO a man, but AS a man—in the person of Jesus—the son of David, the son of Abraham (Matt 1:1), the one through whom God would fulfill His promised blessing to the entire world. And so, we see here that Abraham's going leads to Christ's coming...a coming which brought life & salvation for you and me and all the world.

And so now, for all who have found hope & life in Jesus Christ, God is still showing up and inviting us into a life of obedience. Obedience that still requires great faith, but that God still promises will result in great blessing—blessing both TO us and THROUGH us to all the world. The question is, are we willing to leave behind places of safety, security, and comfort to follow Him to the place where He will show us...trusting, like Abram, that He will lead, guide, and make good on all His promises?

The one who calls us is faithful. He always has been. He always will be.