

**IN THE BEGINNING GOD****Abram Called Out By God****Genesis 12:1—14:24**

*"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.'"* Genesis 12:1

**Day 1: Read Genesis 12:1–5**

1. God is on the move. What promise is he now beginning to put into action in his call to a man named Abram to leave his country? (Gen. 3:14, 15; Rom. 16:20)
2. At one point in the genealogy, the righteous "seed" narrows dangerously to one man on an ark. Starting from Noah, trace Abram's ancestry. Which of Noah's three sons does he spring from? (Gen. 9:18; 11:10–26)
3. List the things God promises this middle-aged, pagan merchant for leaving everything to follow. (vv. 2, 3)
4. God commands; Abram obeys. What is Abram (Abraham) more than once called in Scripture? (2 Chr. 20:7; Isa. 41:8; Jas. 2:23)
5. What is the greatest historical fulfillment of the promise that Abram would be a "blessing" (12:2) to all families of the earth? (Rom. 9:5) And who exactly will be blessed? (Gal. 3:9)

**Day 2: Read Genesis 12: 6–9.**

6. When Abram gets as far as Shechem, God appears to him and promises to give his descendants the land. (v.7) Why do you think he does this at this point? Share a particularly hard time when God gave you a "wink" to confirm his enduring love.
7. What is Abram's only real estate in the Promised Land at the time of his death? (Gen. 23:17–20) What does Abram keep his eye on in his sojourning on earth, and what is his attitude? (Heb. 11:10, 13, 16)

**Day 3: Read Genesis 12:10–20.**

8. Abram passes his wife off as his sister to protect himself. This moment of weakness gives occasion for God to display his own faithfulness as Protector of the promise. (It's all about God!) How has Abram's little scheme endangered the promise of an heir? What part of God's promise is he ready to deploy if need be? (Gen.12:3)
  
9. Can you recall a time when you were unfaithful to God but He remained faithful to you and rescued you?

**Day 4: Read Genesis 13:1–18.**

10. When prosperity renders the land too crowded for Abram and Lot to live together, Abram suggests a separation and gives his nephew first pick. How do Abram's offer and Lot's choices (vv. 10, 11) illustrate the difference between the hearts of the two men?
  
11. Lot makes a choice on the basis of what looks good. Who else did that? (Gen.13:6) This week, be conscious of making choices based not on appearances but on faith in God's promises. (Heb. 11:1)
  
12. Lot chooses the best of the land; Abram has friendship with God. What does Abram immediately receive from God after his gesture of faith and generosity? (vv. 14–17) Consider yourself; what would you rather have — “the best of the land” or friendship with God?
  
13. Peek ahead to see where self-seeking and choosing by appearances will land Lot. (Gen. 19:12ff)

**Day 5: Read Genesis 14:1–24**

14. In the wars of Genesis 14, Abram is a general, and victory is attributed to him. Just then, a mysterious priest-king rides up and reminds Abram that this victory is nothing less than God's advancing his promise again (v. 20). Show how everything that has happened in Genesis 12–14 has been God's moving the “seed promise” along. (Consider this "sampler" of the continuing seed promise: Gen. 3:15; 13:14, 15; 2 Sam. 7:12, 13, 16; Acts 2:29, 30; Gal. 3:16.)
  
15. Whoever this Melchizedek is, Abram recognizes him as his spiritual superior and gives him a tithe and condescends to be blessed by him (14:19, 20; Heb. 7:1-4). Melchizedek is a priest- king without genealogy and without beginning or end; how does he pre-figure Christ? (Heb. 6:20; 7:15–17).
  
16. What has Jesus done for you that the whole line of priests and kings preceding Him could not? (Heb. 7:25).
  
17. Praise Him!