

# Abraham: Faith, Not Sight—Spiritual Eyes

January 3, 2021



**Open:** How have you been inspired by the faith of other believers you have known?

**Read & Discuss:** Genesis 12:1-5

1. What would have been difficult about obeying God's command in verse 1? (*See also Hebrews 11:8*) What are some commands God gives *us* that may be difficult to obey for similar reasons?
2. In verses 2-3, what promises does God make to Abram? How would these promises have been hard to believe? What promises has God made to you in Scripture that are hard to believe?
3. The theme seen in verses 2-3 of being blessed to be a blessing is a key theme through Scripture. Where else in Scripture do we see this idea? What are some of the ways God has blessed you that you're able to use for the good of others? How is sharing God's blessings a demonstration of faith in God?
4. According to verse 4-5, who else was impacted by Abram's choice to trust God's promises? How has following God's leading for your life impacted the lives of those around you? How would you advise a friend who was struggling through these potential costs?

**Read & Discuss:** Hebrews 11:8-11

5. According to verse 10, what was Abraham's true hope? How did this hope enable him to obey God? How have God's promises for the future enabled you to walk in faithful obedience today, even when it might be difficult or require you to do things that don't always make sense?
6. Verse 13 says that Abraham died without having seen the things God promised. According to Genesis 25:7, Abraham lived 175 years. How would you be affected by waiting this long without any obvious action on God's part to fulfill His promises? What helps you keep moving forward in faith when you haven't yet seen God at work in ways that are clear to you?

**Apply:** Are there any particular promises of God which you have not yet seen fulfilled? How can you follow Abraham's example as a response?

**Pray:** Thank God for His many promises and His many blessings. Pray that we would be people who always move forward in faith, knowing that the One who promised is faithful.

## **Genesis 12:1–5**

<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. (ESV)

## **Hebrews 11:8-11**

<sup>[8]</sup> By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>[9]</sup> By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>[10]</sup> For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. <sup>[11]</sup> By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. (ESV)