

SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY



FAITH

Depending On God

Every Wednesday at 6:30 pm – Starting 1/15/2020

SOLID ROCK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

8000 DERRY STREET (REAR)

HARRISBURG PA 17111



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Study Schedule Jan - Feb

Date	Topic	Scripture
1/22/2020	In Praise of Faith	Hebrews 11:1 – 16
2/5/2020	Abraham: Faith Under Construction	Genesis 12:1 – 9
2/12/2020	In Jesus Name: Faith That Asks	John 16:16 – 28
2/19/2020	The Finale of Faith	II Timothy 4:6 – 18



Faith: Depending On God

Lesson 2: Abraham: Faith Under Construction

Genesis 12:1 – 9



Group Discussion: When have you made a major change because you believed the Lord wanted you to, and how did you know what God was asking you to do?

Apollo 13: "Getting Home"



With the fate of astronaut **Jim Lovell** and his Apollo 13 crew in jeopardy, an old interview airs on television, where he talks about the faith of finding a way home.

Questions

- What was the dilemma facing Jim Lovell and his attempts to get home.
- What was Jim tempted to do when it seemed he was out of his own options?
- In what ways do people respond when life gets hard and seemingly out of options?
- How does the cockpit malfunction and the darkness correlate to help Jim? Has God ever worked in a similar way?
- What do you think it means to live by faith? When have you wished you had more faith?

Who Was Abram/Abraham?

Abraham or Abram: (father of a multitude) was the son of Terah, and founder of the great Hebrew nation. (B.C. 1996-1822)

- He was born and raised in Ur of the Chaldees (Gen. 11:27-29).
- He is promised a son and to become the father of a great nation (Gen. 15:1-5).
- He believes God and is declared righteous due to his faith (Gen. 15:6).
- God appears to Abram at 99 years old and changes his name to Abraham (Gen. 17:1-5).
- God promises that Sarah would give birth to a baby boy - Isaac (Gen. 17:17-22).
- He offers up Isaac on Mt. Moriah but God provides a ram in place of him (Gen. 22).
- He dies at the age of 175 (Gen. 25:7-11).

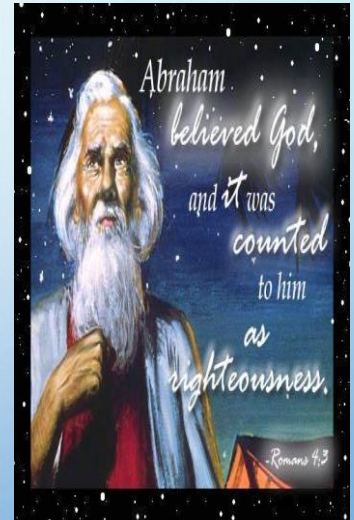
Faith lessons from the life of Abraham:

The life of Abraham is often used by the writers of the Scripture as an example of how we should live as believers.

- We are saved by faith, not by works. (Rom. 4:3, 5, Gal. 3:6)
- Our works reveal the genuineness of our faith (Jam. 1:22, Matt. 7:21 - 27; John 13:17).
- God is able to do far above whatever we can ask or even think. (Eph. 3:20)

The New Testament presents Abraham as a model of faithful life that believes and lives out those God truths in day-to-day living.

This is the kind of faith we should seek to duplicate; and with the help of the Holy Spirit, we are able.



Abraham – “The Father of Faith”



Genesis 12:1 – 5 (NKJV)

Promises to Abram

1 Now the Lord had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, From your family And from your father’s house, To a land that I will show you.

2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.

3 I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

4 So Abram departed as the Lord had spoken to him, and Lot went with him. And Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

5 Then Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people whom they had acquired in Haran, and they departed to go to the land of Canaan. So they came to the land of Canaan.



Genesis 12:6 – 9 (NKJV)

6 Abram passed through the land to the place of Shechem, as far as the terebinth tree of Moreh. And the Canaanites were then in the land.

7 Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, “To your descendants I will give this land.” And there he built an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him.

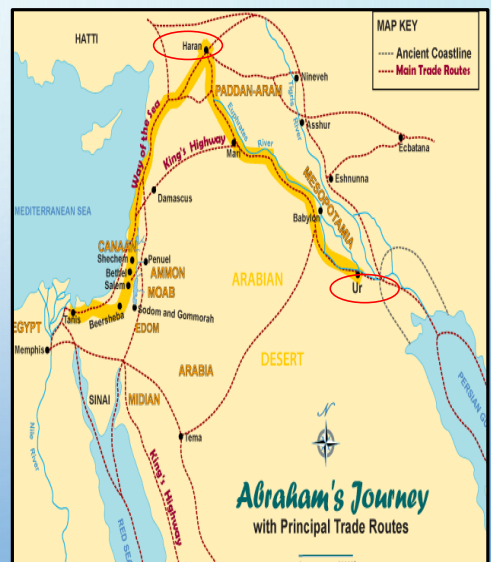
8 And he moved from there to the mountain east of Bethel, and he pitched his tent with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; there he built an altar to the Lord and called on the name of the Lord.

9 So Abram journeyed, going on still toward the South.



1. How did God break unexpectedly into Abram’s (Abraham’s) life?

- Abram’s father Terah, moved the family from Ur toward Canaan and settling in the Land of Haran (Gen 11:27 – 32).
- The land was filled with people worshipping idols – god’s of their hands and understanding.
- God breaks through and speaks while Abram and his family did not know or seek Him.
- God changes Abram and his family’s agenda and purpose (or lack of ...) and moves them in the direction of His Purpose.
- God breaks through by announcing His desire and purpose to bless Abram, his family and others through him.



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2. How did God's promises cover many of Abraham's possible questions (vv. 1-3)?

Abram's Questions	God's Promises
What Do You Want?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Get out of your country, From your family And from your father's house, • I will bless you
Where Do You Want Me To Go?	... A land that I will show you

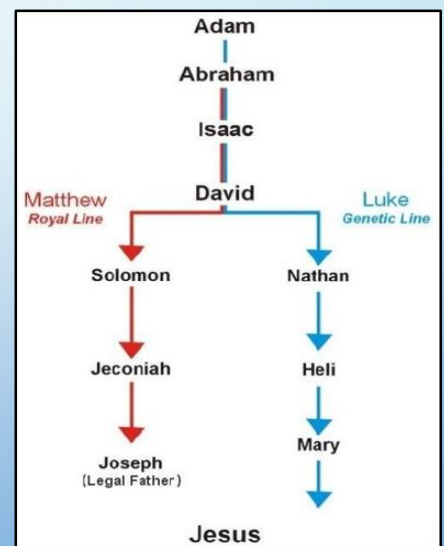
"By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going." (Heb 11:8)

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3. How would Abraham's obedience affect the whole world (v. 3)?

- Abraham's Obedience Provides A Prime Example Of The Rewards Of Believing God By Faith.
- Abraham's Obedience Gives The World The Foundation Of God's Imputed Righteousness To Sinners By Grace Through Faith.
- Abrahams's Obedience means that all people would be blessed through direct genealogical lineage with "came to its complete realization in Christ"

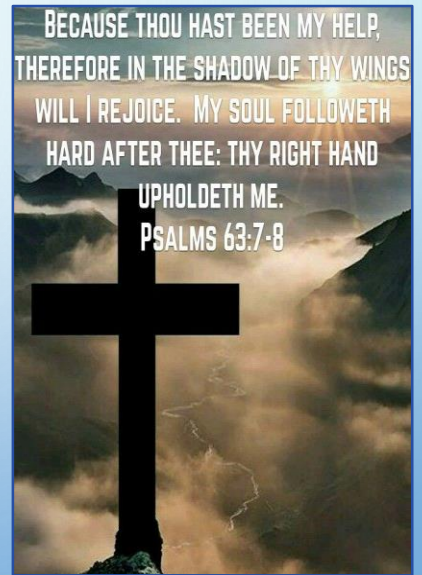


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4. What aspects of Abraham's situation would have complicated his move (vv. 4-5)?

- It could not have been a simple move. Abraham was 75 years old, and Sarah was 65 (Gen 17:17).
- Their destination was unclear and unknown.
- They took along all their possessions, which included herds of livestock such as sheep, goats, cattle, camels and donkeys.
- They also took "the people they had acquired in Haran," which meant servants and some family members, at least Lot and his family.
- It would have been hard to explain their actions people - especially to people who did not know this God.

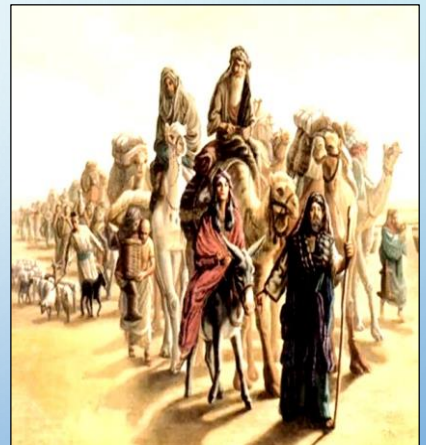


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5. How do you think they would have answered a traveler who asked, "Where are you going?" (vv. 5-6)

- We Are Following The Lord's Leading – Wherever He Says.
- I Don't Know Exactly But We're Heading Toward The Lord's Blessing.
- To The Land/Home That The Lord Has Promised Us.
- To the new nation – that not on the map yet (GPS Update).



"By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place ... obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going." Heb. 11:8 (NIV)



6. A natural follow-up question to “Where are you going?” is “Why?” How do you think Abraham and Sarah might have answered?

Quest.	Answers
Why?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God Has Promised To A Great Nation • God Has Promised To Will Bless Us • God has place to make our name great • And you shall be a blessing. • God has promised to bless us and protect us. • We are setting up a blessing for our families that will affect everyone.


EYE has NOT
 seen, nor
Ear Heard,
 neither have entered into the
 Heart of Man,
 the things which
God has **PREPARED**
 for them that
Love HIM.
 1 CORINTHIANS 2:9



7. When Abraham had traveled some distance into Canaan, what additional promise and encouragement did God provide (vv. 6-7)?

God's Promise & Encouragement	Scriptures (Gen 12:6 – 7)	Remarks
Promise	"To your descendants I will give this land."	God Promises to give the land to Abram's descendants – even though it is currently in the hands of unbelievers.
Encouragement	...And the Canaanites were then in the land. Then the Lord appeared to Abram...	God Word – Abram gets a Word from God that he will have descendants and they receive an inheritance. God's Presence - The Lord shows up where Abram is – indicating He will always be with him and us.

NOTE: In Christian hymns, **Canaan** sometimes symbolizes heaven because it was the **Promised Land**. However, because their idolatrous influence, Canaan also symbolizes **the worldly ways of nonbelievers.**

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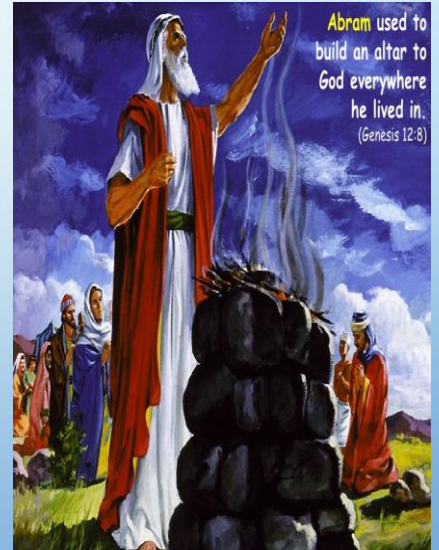
7. What do you notice about Abraham's response to this further revelation of the Lord (vv. 7-8)?

- When Abraham Hears the Word and the Promises of the Lord – He builds an Altar and worships the Lord right where he is.

7 Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." And there he built an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him.

- As Abram move in the direction/fulfilment of the promises of God – he sets up a new Altar to worship and calls upon the Name of the Lord.

8 And he moved from there to the mountain east of Bethel, and he pitched his tent with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; there he built an altar to the Lord and called on the name of the Lord.



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8. Think of a major life change you have made or are in the process of making. If someone asked you, "Why are you doing this?" what would you say?

Why Are You/We Doing This?

- We Believe It Is The Will Of God For Us To Build And Move.
- The Facilities Here On Derry St. Are Becoming Less Able To Support Our Ministry Events.
- To Prepare For Our Future Growth In Numbers/Attendance.
- To Be Ready In Case There May Be Changes To Our Current Rental/Lease Agreement .
- To Be Forward Thinking – Proactive Rather Than Reactive.
- To Build Our Faith In God And Bring Glory To His Name.





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Keys For Living

- Following God by faith will often require us to step out into the unknown or the unfamiliar. It pleases God when we put our trust in Him.
- The things God calls us to do have impact not just for our lives, but for the lives of countless others that we may not even be aware of.
- As we model the faith of Abraham, we will receive the blessings and rewards – either on this side or the other side of Glory.

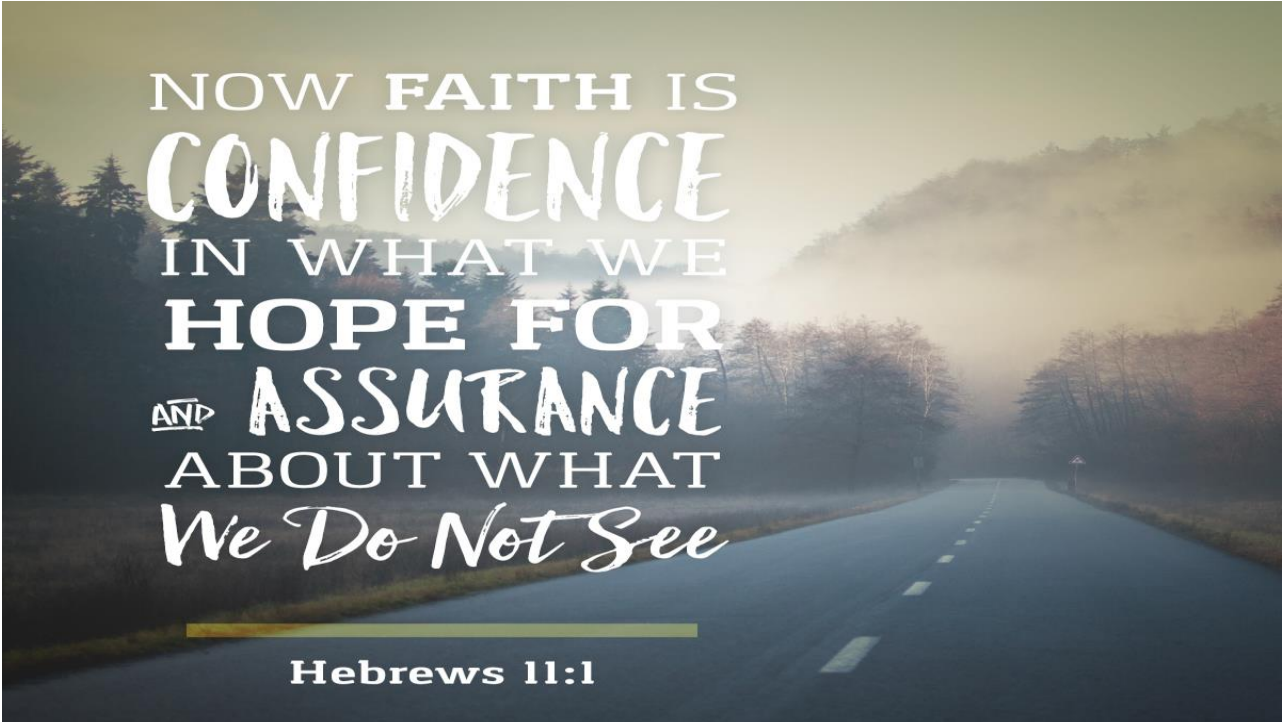


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Questions?





NOW FAITH IS
CONFIDENCE
IN WHAT WE
HOPE FOR
AND ASSURANCE
ABOUT WHAT
We Do Not See

Hebrews 11:1