

ABRAHAM'S FAILURE

Genesis 12:10-20// January 15, 2023



Prepare Your Heart & Mind

Begin this time in prayer, confessing any sins you can recall, thanking the Lord for the gift of His Word, and asking for His Spirit to guide you in your time.

Reflect/Connect

Use these questions for a time of individual reflection or to connect with others in meaningful conversation.

Grow in the Word

These questions are designed as a guide for individual study and to foster spiritual conversation with a group of people.

FAITHFUL

THE LIFE OF ABRAHAM

REFLECT/CONNECT

- What is one particular thing, person, or event that you are thankful for this week?
- Think about a hero you had growing up. What's something you learned about him/her over time that made them more human?



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In the face of a faith-testing food shortage, Abram left the promised land to find safe haven in Egypt. On the way, Abram devised a deceitful plan that would ensure his own safety and well-being at the cost of endangering his wife Sarai (v. 10-13).

- How would you explain Abram going from acts of great faith described in verses 4-9 to the jarring lack of faith implied in verses 10-13? Notice what Abram's motivations are in verse 13.
- What was it that God wanted Abram to do in response to the famine? See Psalm 33:16-19 and Isaiah 31:1.
- What's your natural reaction when trouble or hardship comes your way?

The events unfolded as Abram anticipated. Sarai was taken into Pharaoh's household on account of her beauty. Meanwhile, Abram was given wealth beyond measure for her sake (v. 14-16).

- How did Abram's sin impact his wife Sarai?

- What do you imagine Sarai felt and thought as these things happened?
- How does this passage change or inform your view of Abram as a man?

God responded to Abram's sin by cursing Pharaoh and his family. Pharaoh discovers the truth about Sarai and allows Abram to leave with her and with his recently accumulated wealth (v. 17-20).

- What do you learn about the nature of God through this story? Take note of his promises to Abram in 12:1-3.
- How do you want your relationship with God and/or with others to change in light of this passage?

GENESIS (PART 2) BY THE BIBLE PROJECT

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F4isSyennFo>

This animated short tells the story of the start of God's work to rescue and bless his rebellious world by providing an overview of the second half of the book of Genesis, and by outlining how God moved towards redemption by choosing to bless a man named Abram.

ABRAHAM: ONE NOMAD'S AMAZING JOURNEY OF FAITH - CHUCK SWINDOLL

<https://www.amazon.com/Abraham-Nomads-Amazing-Journey-Faith/dp/141438064X>

The real-life story of Abraham as told by Chuck Swindoll. In this biography, we encounter false gods, self-seeking glory, and the faith of a man named Abraham through whom God would bless the nations.

THE LIFE OF ABRAHAM - THE GOSPEL COALITION

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/course/the-life-of-abraham/#course-introduction>

This is a free, three-lesson course on the account of Abraham's life as described in Genesis offered by the Gospel Coalition. The course offers video, audio, and downloadable study guides.

WHEN I LAY MY ISAAC DOWN - CAROL KENT

<https://www.amazon.com/When-Lay-Isaac-Down-Circumstances/dp/1641582723>

Carol Kent looks to Abraham's faith as she describes her struggle and surrenders to God in the aftermath of her son's murder conviction and subsequent incarceration. Dealing with her anger, grief, and shame, Carol could have given up. Instead, she tells a highly personal, heartbreaking, and uplifting story that will bolster your faith.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MLK MARCH

Monday, January 16 | 9:30 am

Come walk with others from Wayside as we participate in the MLK March with the city of San Antonio. Registration is not required, but more information is available online.

MEN'S SUMMIT RETREAT

February 24 - 26 | Camp Eagle | \$149

Men, join us as we learn how to "Be Ready" to give an account for our hope in every circumstance. Learn more and register online soon - only 59 spots remain!



Find more information and register for events on our mobile app and website!