

Bible Stories for Adults

God Calls Abram

Genesis 12 - 14

Opening

Gathering: Give an example of how God reached out to you when you didn't expect it.
How did you respond?

Today's Focus: To recognize that God calls us by His grace, just as He called Abram, and we are to respond obediently out of faith, just like Abram.

Key Verses: *"I know the plans I have for you", declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."* Jeremiah 29:11

By faith Abraham, when called to go ... obeyed and went. For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. Hebrews 11:8, 10

Opening Prayer

Lesson

The Cycle of Sin / Judgment / Grace (Genesis 3-11)

<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Sin</u>	<u>Judgment</u>	<u>Grace</u>
3			
4			
6-9			
11			

The Account of Terah (Genesis 11:27-30)

Who concludes the list of ten generations in Genesis 5?

Genesis 5:3, 32

Who concludes the list of ten generations in Genesis 11?

Genesis 11:10, 26

From what descendant of Shem and ancestor of Terah did the Hebrews (eberi) get their name?

Genesis 11:14

What do we learn about the family of Terah?

Genesis 11:27-30

How was Abram related to Sarai other than marriage?

Genesis 20:12

		Terah		
	Nahor		Haran	Abram
		Milcah	Iscah	Lot
				Sarai

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The Family Goes (*Genesis 11:31-12:1*)

Did this family stay in Ur of the Chaldeans after the Tower of Babel incident?

Genesis 11:31-32

Ur

Haran

Why did they leave their great life in Ur?

Genesis 12:1

Did this call from God come to Abram when he was in Ur or in Haran?

Acts 7:2-3

Was God calling Abram to go to Haran or to Canaan?

Genesis 15:7

How long did Abram stay in Haran before going on to Canaan?

Acts 7:4

How old was Abram when he left Haran?

Genesis 12:4

The Call (*Genesis 12:1-3*)

What was God's command to Abram?

Genesis 12:1

How was Abram different than the people of Babel?

Genesis 11:4

Genesis 12:2

Why did God ask Abram to go?

Romans 9:4-5

What else did God promise Abram?

Genesis 12:2-3

How were all nations blessed through Abram?

Matthew 1:1, 17

Galatians 3:6-9

Galatians 3:14

Was Abram selected because he was righteous or devout?

Joshua 24:2

Abram's Response (*Genesis 12:4-8*)

What was Abram's response to God's call?

Genesis 12:4-5

How could Abram leave his comfortable home and go somewhere he didn't even know?

Hebrews 11:8-10

What new promise did God give after Abram obeyed His first command and arrived in Canaan?

Genesis 12:7a

Why was *offspring* a significant part of God's promise?

Genesis 11:30 (Acts 7:5)

How could Abram even consider this impossible promise?

Hebrews 11:11-12

Was it easier for Abram to have this faith than for us?

Romans 4:18-22

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Abram's Travels (*Genesis 12:6-10*)

- Where did Abram go from Haran?
Genesis 12:6
- How did Abram show his faithfulness to God in Shechem?
Genesis 12:7
- Where did Abram go from Shechem?
Genesis 12:8
Bethel means *house of El*
- Where did Abram go from Bethel?
Genesis 12:9
- Where did Abram go next, and why?
Genesis 12:10

God's Chosen Ones in Egypt (*Genesis 12:10*)

- Who else did God send to Egypt?
Acts 7:11-15
Matthew 2:13
- Why did God send each of these chosen ones to Egypt?
Matthew 2:14-15

Abram in Egypt (*Genesis 12:11-20*)

- What faith and character qualities did Abram display in Egypt?
Genesis 12:11-13
- How well did Abram's plan work?
Genesis 12:14-16
- How did Abram's lack of faith threaten God's plan?
Genesis 17:19
- How did God handle this threat to His plan?
Genesis 12:17-20
- Could Abram's sins nullify God's promise?
Job 42:2

The Better Choice (*Genesis 13:1-13*)

- How had things changed for Abram in Egypt?
Genesis 13:1-2
- Where did Abram go after reaching the desert land of the Negeb?
Genesis 13:3-4
- What problem arose when they settled around Bethel?
Genesis 13:5-7
- What solution did Abram suggest that showed his faithfulness?
Genesis 13:8-9
- Where did Lot choose and why?
Genesis 13:10-11
- How did this apparent best choice turn out to be the worst?
Genesis 13:12-13

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God Blesses Abram's Choice (*Genesis 13:14-18*)

How did God respond to Abram's act of faith?

Genesis 13:14-15

What was the problem with this blessing and what did God promise to do about it?

Genesis 13:16

How did Abram respond to the blessing God gave him?

Genesis 13:17-18

Trouble in Siddim (*Genesis 14:1-16*)

What happened at this time in local politics where Lot went to live?

Genesis 14:3-4 (1-4)

What happened as a result of this decision?

Genesis 14:8 (5-9)

How did this battle in the Valley of Siddim turn out?

Genesis 14:10-11

How did this affect Lot and his family?

Genesis 14:12

How did Abram respond to the news about his nephew being captured?

Genesis 14:13-14

How did Abram fare against the four powerful armies?

Genesis 14:15-16

To God Be the Glory (*Genesis 14:17-24*)

Who met Abram in the Valley of Shaveh (south of Bethel) on his way back home to Hebron?

Genesis 14:17

Who else met him there from the nearby town of Salem? (Salem was later known as Jerusalem)

Genesis 14:18-20a

Besides having a name that means "king of righteousness", what was special about Melchizedek?

Hebrews 6:20-7:3 (7:1-22)

How did Abram respond to Melchizedek?

Genesis 14:20b

How did Abram respond to a reward from the king of Sodom?

Genesis 14:21-24

Closing Prayer

Response

1. How can I recognize a call from God?
(Genesis 12:1-4; 1 Samuel 3; Isaiah 6:8; John 8:47; 1 John 4:1-3; Revelation 3:20)
2. Do I respond in faith when God calls me for something I don't see or know? *(Hebrews 11; Genesis 12:4; 22:2-3; 1 Samuel 15:22; Matthew 7:21; James 1:22-25; 1 Peter 1:10-12)*
3. Do I worship God and see His hand at work wherever I go? *(Psalm 118:15-16; 139; Genesis 8:20; 12:7-8; 13:18; 26:25; 28:18-19; 33:20; 35:7; Joshua 4:20-24; 1 Corinthians 10:31)*
4. Do I make choices that are in line with God's plan, or do I make my own plans ignoring God's will? *(Genesis 13:10-13; Deuteronomy 18:19-20; 1 Kings 3:9; Luke 10:41-42; Romans 7:15-25)*
5. How do I respond when God blesses me? *(Genesis 12:2; 14:20b; Deuteronomy 26:1-10; 1 Chronicles 29:14,16; Psalm 116:12-18; Jeremiah 33:10-11; Luke 20:22-25)*