

TESTED

Part 1: The Test of Calling

Genesis 12:1-6 (ESV)

¹ 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. ² 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. ³ 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." ⁴ 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. ⁵ 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. When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶ Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land.

Central Truth: All those God calls and uses for His glorious and redemptive purpose will be _____.

To 'pass', I'll have to ...

Let go of _____, _____, _____.

Genesis 12:1 (ESV)

¹ 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."

Grab hold of _____.

Hebrews 11:8 (ESV)

⁸ 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.

God's commands are rarely accompanied with _____, but they are always accompanied with _____ (explicitly or implicitly).

Not let go of _____.

Genesis 12:2-3 (ESV)

² 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. ³ 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."

3 promises ...

What challenges to obedience did Abram face?

- 1) _____?
- 2) _____?
- 3) _____?

Important note: There is no record of Abram receiving any further revelation from God until he had fully _____.

Genesis 12:7-9 (ESV)

⁷ Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸ From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD.

⁹ And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

That tells me ...

So, why did Abram go?

- 1) God _____.

True (saving) faith is always marked by _____.

For a fuller treatment of this, read James 2:14-26

- 2) He wanted _____.

Hebrews 11:1 (ESV)

¹ Now faith is **the assurance of things hoped for**, the conviction of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:8-10 (ESV)

⁸ 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. ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ For **he was looking forward to the city that has foundations**, whose designer and builder is God.

Does what you are looking for have "foundations"?

God's call to **me** ...

A call to **follow** ...?

A call to **leave** ...?

A call to **pursue** ...?