

## SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE



**STORIES YOU SHOULD KNOW**  
**ABE MATOS**  
**OCTOBER 29, 2023**

If you would like to watch the message, visit [rpc.me/messages](https://rpc.me/messages).

### READ

Genesis 12:1-3 and Matthew 1:1

### QUESTIONS

- What is the connection between Jesus' genealogy and Abraham's? (Abraham's descendants would become God's chosen people, the people of Israel. Abraham's lineage is the lineage from which Jesus was born.)
- What promises are made to Abram in this passage? (God will make Him into a great nation, God will bless him, God will make his name great, Abram would be a blessing, and through Him all the families of the earth will be blessed.)
- What will Abram leave behind in following God's promises? (His country, some of his relatives, and his identity.) How do you think his friends and family reacted to this news? Would they have tried to talk him out of it or would they have been supportive?

### READ

Genesis 12:4; 12:7 and 12:10-20

### QUESTIONS

- Abraham had a decision whether or not to trust God. He did not know exactly where he was going or what would be involved. How does his scenario reflect a life of faith? [\(Abraham put his trust in God. He believed in God and obeyed Him.\)](#)
- Abe mentioned, “Sometimes when God issues a promise oftentimes it can be confusing when it comes with a big problem.” What was happening in the promised land God gave to Abraham? [\(A famine\)](#)
- Despite staying in the place God called him to dwell where does Abram go? [\(Egypt\)](#) What events occur when he arrives in Egypt? [\(Abram encounters the Egyptians who capture Sarai and praise her to Pharaoh. She is then taken to Pharaoh's palace.\)](#)
- How did God intercede on behalf of Sarai and Abram? [\(God shows himself to be faithful to Abram and rescues Sarai from Pharaoh. God still honors the promise He made to Abram even when Abram made a poor decision based on fear.\)](#)

## READ

Genesis 15:1-6 and 16:1-4

## QUESTIONS

- How does Abram respond to God’s promise of having an heir? [\(Once again Abram is not patient. God is not moving fast on his promise so Sarai and Abram take matters into their hands and speed up God’s promise with Hagar.\)](#)
- God often seems slow to keep his promises while we are waiting. How does this idea of “God isn’t moving fast enough” connect with your current experiences or with what God has been teaching you?
- Why would God pick Abraham? Abe leaves us with three points to consider:
  - If you feel too broken to be used by God, you’re in good company. Get over it.
  - If you think you got it all together and you’re a “good person,” get over it. You’re broken like the rest of us.
  - Despite all your brokenness, the one thing you have going for yourself is faith. And your faith is measured by your obedience.
- God chose Abraham and told him, “...in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.” What was so special about Abraham that God chose him out of all the people on earth? [\(Abraham’s story reveals he was a flawed person just like me and you. Abraham was not perfect but what made Abraham special was his faith and obedience to God. He said, “I believe in you, God. I’ll go where you send me.”\)](#)
- Considering Abraham’s story, what did you hear? Where is God calling you to obey?

**CLOSE IN PRAYER:** How can the group pray for you now and in the days ahead?

**LEADERS:** On Thursday, **November 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm** is Worship & Prayer Night in place of our regular service. Invite your group to attend with you as we pray for our next lead pastor. We believe prayer is at the heart of this process; and this is a wonderful opportunity to come together and seek God's wisdom and direction.

Note: This is our last week of the Sermon Discussion Guide. If your group will continuing meeting and you need group studies, let me know!