

Lesson on Abraham

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(Genesis 11:31-32)**
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(Genesis 12:1-5)**
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(Genesis 13:1-2)**
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(Genesis 19:1-3)**
- 14  **14. Lot's wife looks back
(Genesis 19:23-26)**

Lesson Overview

Suppose someone came up to you and said, "Pack up everything you own, put it in a car, and start driving. Don't say good-bye to anyone; just begin traveling." Would you leave immediately without asking any questions? No, probably you would say, "But where am I going? Why should I take this trip? How long will I be gone?"

Many years after the great flood, there lived in Ur of the Chaldees, a man named Abram. Most of the people who lived in and around Ur did not believe in the one true God. They worshipped the sun, moon, and idols of brass and stone. But Abram worshiped God.

One day God spoke to Abram. "Leave this country and your family. Go from your father's house to a land I will show you."

Abram had no idea where God wanted him to go! Instead of asking questions, Abram gathered together his possessions and got his large household ready to travel.

God first led Abram and his family to a place called Haran. Here they stopped for quite a long time.

While they were in Haran, Abram's father, Terah, died. The Abram again heard the voice of God.

God told Abram to leave Haran and to continue his journey. God said, "I will bless you, Abram. I will make your name great. I will make you the father of a great nation of people. I will bless those who bless you."

So again Abram and Sarai, their relatives, and their herdsmen and servants continued on the journey. Finally, after a long hard trip, God led Abram into the land called Canaan.

"Abram, because you have been faithful and obedient, I will give this land to you and to your sons and to their children."

It came to pass that there was a severe famine in the land. Abram decided to go to Egypt where he could find food. Because his wife Sarai was so beautiful he told her to say she was his sister. Pharaoh noticed the beauty of Sarai and took her as his wife, but God afflicted Pharaoh with a severe disease. When Pharaoh learned that Sarai was Abram's wife he told him to leave, but he gave him many riches to take with him.

Abraham returned to Canaan and because he and his nephew Lot had become rich with large herds they had to separate. Abraham gave Lot the first choice of which land to settle and Lot chose a fertile area where the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah were located.

Now Sarah, had borne Abraham no children. But she had an Egyptian maidservant named Hagar; so she said to him, "The LORD has kept me from having children. Go, sleep with my maidservant; perhaps I can build a family through her." Abraham agreed to what Sarai said and Ishmael was born through Hagar. But that was not God's plan for Abraham and he told him that Sarah would bear a child in her old age. He also told Abraham that he was going to Sodom and Gomorrah and that the cities would be destroyed because of their wickedness. Abraham pleaded for his nephew Lot who was living there and God agreed to spare the cities of 10 righteous people could be found.

But God did not find ten righteous people and told Lot that he and his family should flee the city without looking back. Lot left the city with his wife and two daughters but Lot's wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt. God asked a lot from Abraham but blessed him because of his faith. What kind of challenges do we face in our life that requires faith? How can you show that your faithful to God?