

Count the Stars

“Fearful Faith”

GETTING STARTED

ICE BREAKER: Talk about a time when fear caused you to make a bad decision—or when trusting God helped you stay steady.

KEY THOUGHT: ***Genuine faith can struggle with fear, but God remains faithful even when we fail.***

GETTING THE POINT

Read Genesis 12:10-20

1. What circumstance in verse 10 seems to trigger Abram’s fear, and why would this test his faith?
2. Abram had just received God’s promises in verses 1-9. How does his decision to go to Egypt reveal a struggle between faith and fear?
3. What does Abram’s plan involving Sarai in verses 11-13 show about how fear can distort judgment?
4. How does Pharaoh’s response expose the seriousness of Abram’s deception?
5. What stands out to you about the phrase “But the Lord” in verse 17? What does this teach us about God’s character?
6. How do verses 18-20 show both the consequences of sin and the mercy of God?

GETTING DEEPER

Read Matthew 28:18-20 and 1 Peter 1:6-9

1. How does Jesus’ promise, “I am with you always,” answer the same kind of fear Abram faced?
2. Why do you think God often calls imperfect, fearful people to carry out His mission?
3. According to 1 Peter 1:6-9, how can trials actually strengthen and refine our faith?
4. What similarities do you see between Abram’s testing and the trials believers face today?

GETTING PERSONAL

1. When you experience suffering, what is your natural focus—relief from pain, understanding the cause, or something else? Why do you think that is?
2. How might remembering that today’s affliction is temporary change the way you pray, speak, or make decisions this week?
3. Paul refuses to “lose heart.” What would it look like for you to adopt that same resolve in your current circumstances—and how could this perspective impact others who are watching your response to suffering?
4. What practical steps can help you “look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen” (4:18) during a time of hardship?

PRAY... that we would trust God in seasons of uncertainty, repent quickly when fear leads us astray, and rest in His faithful presence through every trial.