

The Gospel According to Abraham: The Call

Genesis 11:26-12:4
(black Bibles page 8; Children's Bibles page 26)

Welcome to the series *The Gospel According to Abraham*. Abraham will teach us about two things:

1. **Our lives.** How to live life. Abraham is known as the man of faith and faithful living.
2. **Christ.** Along the way, we will see the future realities of the Gospel of Jesus Christ revealed to Abraham in different ways.

Genesis 12: The beginning of the Bible. (*huh?*)

The Call. Why Abra(ha)m? Why was he uniquely called by God?

- His pagan background is all we know (Joshua 24:2-3, Genesis 31:19).
- Later, the same question will be asked about Israel. (Deut 7:7-8, 9:6, Exodus 2:24).

A Call to what? Blessing and mystery.

- Blessing: Many blessings listed in Genesis 12:1-3.
- Mystery: Abraham is on a need-to-know basis.

Does the Lord take away Abraham's freedom? Certainly his *geographical* freedom, right?

- Back to #1 above: Our lives. Abraham teaches us how to live life. Abraham is known as the man of faith and faithful living.

Back to #2 above: The Gospel According to Abraham. Christ is revealed in Abraham's story in many ways as we will see.

"Follow me," Christ calls *us*. Remember: God has saved his people because he loves them

Questions for Community Groups and further study:

[1] Consider what came before Abraham's story in Genesis 1-11. What were the major events?

- How are these events a relevant background to Abraham's call and life?
- Is Abraham in some way a 'solution' to the problems that preceded him? How so?

2] Why Abraham? Why was he uniquely called by God? Consider Joshua 24:2-3, Genesis 31:19.

- Later, the same question will be asked about Israel. Why were they uniquely called by God? Consider Deut 7:7-8, Deut 9:6, and Exodus 2:24.

[3] The call: God says "Go" to Abraham (Gen 12:1). Christ calls us: "Follow me." What does this look like for you? For us?