

Lesson 8

Cross

Formed

Kids

**What did God tell Abraham to do?
God told Abraham to leave his homeland,
and follow the path of God's promises.**

Read aloud: Genesis 12:1-9

Recommended Illustration

There is something special about home. Talk with the kids about a time you were away from home for longer than you would have liked, then help them see what makes home special. We are not talking about the size of the house or the quality of the furniture or even the refrigerator full of food. We are talking about the fact that it is familiar, a place where you feel comfortable and safe and provided for. Home is just...home.

We like to be home. It is where our family is. It is the place where we have grown up and learned to be ourselves. It is the place where our parents have taught us manners, and how to walk and even how to talk. Most of what we know about ourselves we have learned at home. In fact, people do not really know us in full until they have seen us at home. If I want to really know you, it would be a good step to just visit you in your home. Once we figure out what a person's home is like, we can really start to understand that person better. Home gives us our identities, and that is why it is such a hard place to leave. When we leave home, we leave ourselves.

Helpful Insights

Here is a startling truth: every single child to whom you will teach this lesson knows more about God than Abraham knew when God said to Abraham, "Go". Abraham knew next to nothing of God. Nonetheless, he obeyed. He trusted. God said to follow the path of God's promises, and Abraham did just that. The words of this unfamiliar God were enough to create trust in Abraham. That trust caused Abraham to obey. He left all that he knew, all that made him comfortable, all that kept him feeling safe, all that taught him, all that he knew of himself. Obedience, for Abraham and for us, means knowing God is worth all of that.

The Point

Abraham was being called by a God he barely knew to go to a place he had never heard of, let alone seen. He was going there for reasons he did not understand, to do things he had not yet been told.

The faith that allowed Abraham to obey is the same faith God wants to give us. When we hear God's word and believe it, that is because God has given us faith. Once he does that, we are well on our way to obedience!

