



the WELL  
CAMPUS MINISTRY @ GVSU  
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**Lab Study Guide Fall 2016**  
**Hebrews 11: By Faith**

**Date: Sept 25, 2016**  
**Hebrews 11:8-10**

**Teacher: Stacie Post**  
**OT Text: Gen 12:1-9**

- 1. Read the Text Together** Read both Hebrews 11 and the Old Testament Text for this week out loud with your group.
- 2. Make Observations** What stands out? What phrases caught your attention? Any repetition, contrasts, comparisons?
- 3. Ask Questions** What is confusing or hard to understand? Any details that might be important?  
Ask: who, what, where, when, why, how?

**4. Background Information**

The Command

Gen 12:1 לך לך "Lech Lecha" God says, "Go forth." Literally means "go take yourself"

God asked Abram to leave three things:

- 1) Land
- 2) Kindred/Relatives
- 3) Father's household

The world of the bible was built around to two basic values/resources: 1) Land 2) Family

Your identity was defined by a place in an unbroken chain of ancestors and descendants, on your ancestral land.

No matter what - the family and the land must survive.

Being removed from both the family and the land left a person without worth, identity, connection, community, or purpose for the future.

Journey of Abram

1. Gen 11:31 Ur to Haran – 630 Miles. Today, excellent hikers can cover 20 miles/day. 31.5 days
2. Gen 12:4-6 Haran to Shechem – 400 Miles, 20 days
3. Gen 12:8-10 Shechem - Beth El – Hebron - BeerSheva to Egypt–200 Miles, 10 days

Abram's Journey = 1230 Miles! By the way – he was 75 years old!

Location Matters!

Gen 12:1 "The land I will show you" can also be called the "Land Between".

Throughout history, this land served as a land bridge between Africa, Asia and Europe, making this small strip of land invaluable to everyone. EVERYONE passed through, and EVERYONE wanted to control it.

God's plan was for Abram was to become the father of God's people, even changed his name!

Abram = Exalted Father Abraham = Father of Many (Gen 17)

God wanted to place his people right in the middle of the middle of the middle. In the middle of everything!

in a place they would be tested, where their obedience would be on display

in a place where God's love for them would be clearly seen by the entire ancient world.

In a place where the whole world could watch His story unfold.

**5. Application Questions**

- 1) Have you ever followed God's call into the unknown? How did you see God care for you or provide for you that you didn't expect?
- 2) What parts of your plan for your life would be the hardest to let go of if God had a different plan and said "Lech Lecha" to you?
- 3) How might God ask us to "Lech Lecha" or "go forth"? What are some ways that God might speak to us?
- 4) Location matters! Where has God put your story? What are some ways God might have you in a strategic place where you are right now?

- 6. Read Hebrews 12:1-3** What does "by faith" look like in the OT story? What challenges were faced or overcome? What risks were taken? What about this story inspires you or motivates to live out the challenge in Hebrews 12:1-3.