



FaithFull

Week 6 | Abraham and the Foundation of Faith

September 27, 2026

Reading of the Word

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Hebrews 11:8-12 (ESV)

8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. 10 For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. 11 By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. 12 Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.

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Hebrews 11:17–19 (ESV).

17 By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, 18 of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” 19 He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

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Hebrews tells us that faith is a comprehension that becomes a conviction that then determines our action.

Abraham stands as one of the greatest examples in Scripture of what it means to live a life of faith.

- Abraham’s whole life is laid out for us in Genesis 12-25.

Hebrews highlights four points in Abraham’s life:

- 1) 11:8 – God says, *Leave your home.*
- 2) 11:9-10 – God says, *I’ve asked you to leave your land, because there’s a land I want to give you.*
- 3) 11:11-12 – God says, *I’m going to give you a son.*
- 4) 11:17-19 – God says, *Abraham, take your son and sacrifice him to me.*

So what’s the story of Abraham’s life according to Hebrews? It boils down to this:

- God says, Get out! Abraham says, Where to? God says, I’ll let you know, just go. Every time God shows up to Abraham he brings chaos and trial into Abraham’s life.
- **Yet, he obeyed. He had faith that acted.**

How in the world did he do that?



Foundations.

Abraham was a citizen of Ur. Ur worshipped Nammu, the moon God.

This is the darkest paganism we can conceive.

Abraham was a citizen of Ur, an ancient city located on the Euphrates River in what is today known as southern Iraq.

- Because the city of Ur was ancient it had amenities it could boast such as an elaborate system of writing, sophisticated math (they knew the quadratic equation!), higher education, extensive business but most of all..
- Ur worshipped Nammu, the moon God, actually involved human sacrifice.

Joshua 24:2 tells us that Abraham, and his father Terah, were pagans who worshipped this moon God.

- In Acts 7, “*The God of glory appeared to Abraham.*” And God said, *Get out! Stop living the way you’re living in Ur and in your father’s house. Turn from the moon God and follow me, and I will bless you. And I will make you a blessing to the whole earth.*

What did Abraham do? **He went.** The call of God disrupted his life.

This is where we have to start too. We have to **hear** the call of God. It can come in a thousand different ways: an illness, or a tragedy, a song, a book a sermon or a friend...

God comes in and begins to speak. And it makes you question your life.

The main thing call of God did to Abraham, was show him that in this world, there are really no foundations at all. Nothing in this life is sure.

- As good as those things are, they can’t ever be the salvation we want them to be. This world has no foundations.
 - The only way you’ll see that, is to **hear God’s call.**
- God came to Abraham and spoke, and it exposed all the things in Abraham’s life that he thought were sure. He came to see that the only thing in his life that was a true foundation, was the God who was speaking.

If there is a God, and that God speaks, then my relationship to him is the only ultimate foundation to build my life on.

It’s important that you see that Abraham didn’t just hear the call, but **he obeyed the call.** He didn’t just acknowledge God’s words, **he acted on God’s words.**

- It’s another example of our definition of faith:

We hear, we trust, we act. We give our allegiance. That’s faith.



Forward.

How do you act as if this world has no foundations?

How do you live into that truth?

In Genesis 12-25, Abraham falls down a lot. Our hearts always want to cling to those false foundations we grew up with, and came to believe were true.

- Learning to live as though God is our only foundation is a process.
- The four highlights of Abraham’s life got progressively harder.
 - Each step in the process was God saying, This thing that you think is so important Abraham It’s not. Get out! Be willing to see that this thing is not the ultimate. Don’t be controlled by it any more.
 - The only way to do that is to see me as your ultimate security.

And there's our answer. **How do we live as though God is our only true foundation?**

It's what we look at.

- Hebrews says that Abraham was **looking forward** to the city that has foundations. Whether you live a powerful, faithful life or not, all depends upon where you look. Are you looking forward in trust of what God is doing in your life?
- It is to say, maybe God isn't just being mean but merciful. Maybe this is his call to me to get out. Every basket on this earth will fail.

Is it cruel for God to chase Abraham out of all his trees? Is it mean for God to chase us out of whatever tree we're in right now, when he knows that tree is coming down?

If God isn't your security, then you have no security.

Abraham didn't just like at his life right now, but he looked forward. Vs 10: *He looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.*

- Abraham looked forward, but based on what?
 - Jesus in John 8 says that *"Abraham rejoiced to see my day."*
 - Abraham knew about the Messiah to come in just the tiniest of a thumbnail. And he looked forward to that day. He rejoiced in it.
- And how much more do we know than even Abraham?
 - Jesus left the safety of his Father's home. On the cross, he left his Father's love. God turned on him as he bore our sins and paid for them on the cross. Jesus was stripped of everything.

We know what Abraham never did. We know that if God comes in and calls us away from home, money, friends, job, it's nothing compared to what Jesus experienced for us.

When you look forward to a home, a Father, wealth with foundations, *you become a person of power, a person who can face anything, a person of faith.*

God, thank you for shaking us out of the trees that are destined for the ground. Let us hear you when you come in. Let us obey what you say. Let us be people of faith, who look to the eternal riches available to us in Jesus, and let them direct how we live today. Let us see that the things we are asked to do are so small compared to the greatness of what Jesus was asked to do. And compared to all that is promised to us. In the name of the foundation of our faith, Jesus, we ask these things, Amen.

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