



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Genesis 1 – 19 Sermon Series
Supports Session 10: Promised
Sermon Title: “Is God Calling You?” (Gen 12:1-4)

Connection to Session 10

Session 10 focuses on God’s blessings seen in the promises that He keeps. This message will look at what Christians today can learn from God’s call on Abram.

Introduction/Opening

Abram heard the calling from God when he was living in what is now modern-day Iraq with his father, brother, and wife. There is no doubt that there were false gods all around Abram at the time, yet despite this, Abram heard and responded to the one true God.

- In a similar way, there are plenty of false idols around us.
- These false idols might be possessions, pleasure-seeking hedonism, money, comfort, or even, if we are to be honest with ourselves, cultural Christianity.
- Today, we are exploring the simple question: Is God calling you? A quick answer should follow: yes!
 - God may not be calling you to be a pastor or a full-time missionary, but God is always calling you to serve Him somehow, somewhere.
 - But what does this mean? It will take time for you to examine what it looks like, but for now, it’s important to rethink your life, your priorities, your purpose in Him.
- God is speaking. Let’s let God speak today through his Word as He calls you first to obedience in Him.

Outline

1. Leave your Comfort (12:1-3).

- a. Abram was likely comfortable in his home in Haran versus being on the move to Canaan.
 - i. He had several advantages in Haran: his relatives, knowledge of the land, protection from the elements, reliable sources of food and water (perhaps a well).
 - ii. The trip to Canaan would remove those advantages.
- b. The choice was before Abram: be disobedient and comfortable for the moment, or obey God and trust Him by journeying through an uncomfortable, unfamiliar place.
 - i. The destination, however, would be a place where God would make him the ancestor of a great nation, a new nation, a nation of a Kingdom of priests forever, a nation that would lead others to worship God Himself.
 - ii. Through Abram, God would bless many nations, change the world, and change eternity.
 - iii. This was Abram's choice: to obey or to ignore. He chose to obey, and God did a mighty work in him.
- c. In the same way, God calls you to obey His call, even if it means leaving your comfort.

2. Take Action (12:4)

- a) End the excuses.
 - a. Abram obeyed God. Period.
 - i. This was a call that required action.
 - ii. And one thing is for sure: when God speaks through His Word, prayer, or the godly, no excuse will work.
 - b. Moses had five excuses that he gave to God:
 - i. Exodus 3:11,13; 4:1,10,13.
 - ii. None of them worked.
- b) Enter His service.
 - a. Remind yourself that God is not done with you. This is true despite your age.
 - i. Noah was well past 500 years old when God called him to build the ark.
 - ii. Here in Genesis 12, Abram was 75 years old.

- iii. God calls the young, the middle-aged, and the elderly to serve Him.
- b. The late Pastor Fred Wolfe was once the pastor of the esteemed and respected Cottage Hill Baptist Church in Mobile, Alabama. Pastor Wolfe retired there, but after he retired, God made it clear that he wasn't done with Brother Fred just yet. He felt led to move back to Mobile after being away for a season, and while in prayer, "God spoke a clear word to him that he was to start a church for 'scattered sheep.'" This meant that Brother Fred was to plant a church at age 70! Fred Wolfe continued to serve and preach Jesus faithfully until the Lord called him home!¹

Conclusion

As God used Abram, He can use you. How? Listen to God, follow God, and take action for God. Immerse yourself in His Word, engage with others in Bible study, focus on God's will in prayer, and seek godly counsel that will help you join God at work.

As you look and surrender to the Father's leading to serve, you will glorify Him with a life of purpose, of worship, of light to the world around you. Start that journey to serve Him today.

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¹ Luke 4:18 Fellowship: Our Story, from <https://www.luke418fellowship.com/about/our-story/>.