Faith's Journey Message 1 April 26-27, 2008

## **Letting God Take You Somewhere**

Genesis 11:27-12:7

This passage provides **five realizations** which will help each believer let God take them somewhere in faith.

 Realization #1: GOD WANTS YOU TO <u>SAY "YES" TO HIS VOICE</u>, REGARDLESS OF OBJECTIONS.

The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. <sup>2</sup>"I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." <sup>4</sup>So Abram left, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran. Genesis 12:1-4 (New International Version)

Faith = responding to God's voice <u>with obedience</u> regardless of feelings, circumstances or consequences

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. Hebrews 11:8 (English Standard Version)

 Realization #2: REALIZE THAT A FAITH JOURNEY IS ALL ABOUT <u>DEPENDING ON GOD</u>, NOT YOURSELF. (Genesis 12:1)

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going. Hebrews 11:8 (New Living Translation)

My heart is not proud, O LORD, my eyes are not haughty; I do not concern myself with great matters or things too wonderful for me. <sup>2</sup>But I have stilled and quieted my soul; like a weaned child with its mother, like a weaned child is my soul within me. <sup>3</sup>O Israel, put your hope in the LORD both now and forevermore. Psalm 131:1-3 (NIV)

## • Realization #3: REALIZE THAT YOUR FAITH JOURNEY MAY BE DIFFICULT.

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup>And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, <sup>6</sup>Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Genesis 12:4-6 (ESV)

Women received back their dead, raised to life again. Others were tortured and refused to be released, so that they might gain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup>Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison. <sup>37</sup>They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword . . . <sup>39</sup>These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised. Hebrews 11:35-39 (NIV)

## • Realization #4: COMPROMISE WILL ALWAYS DELAY MY FAITH JOURNEY.

Terah took Abram his son and Lot the son of Haran, his grandson, and Sarai his daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife, and they went forth together from Ur of the Chaldeans to go into the land of Canaan, but when they came to Haran, they settled there. <sup>32</sup>The days of Terah were 205 years, and Terah died in Haran. Genesis 11:31-32 (ESV)

And Stephen said: "Brothers and fathers, hear me. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, <sup>3</sup>and said to him, 'Go out from your land and from your kindred and go into the land that I will show you.' <sup>4</sup>Then he went out from the land of the Chaldeans and lived in Haran. And after his father died, God removed him from there into this land in which you are now living. Acts 7:2-4 (ESV)

• Realization #5: IF YOU COMMIT YOURSELF TO DOING THE WILL OF GOD, HE WILL REVEAL HIMSELF TO YOU IN NEW WAYS.

Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. <sup>7</sup>The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him. Genesis 12:6-7 (NIV)

"Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him." John 14:21 (NIV)