



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Pass the Promise Series, Lesson 11

Lesson Title: God Calls Abram

Take Home Point: You can trust God to lead you.

Warm-Up:

I am teaching my son how to drive. When we leave the garage to run an errand, I do not tell him, "OK, take a left to get to Main Street, turn south on Main, go through three intersections, take the next left, go four blocks, turn into the store parking lot and find a place to park. Oh, and on the way, stop for gas at the station at the second intersection." I could tell him that, but would likely have to repeat it anyway as we go. He doesn't worry about it anyway. He figures I know where we are going and how to get there, and trusts me to give him the direction he needs when he needs it.

Read: Genesis 12-13

Observation (What happened?):

Write down all the promises God made to Abram in Genesis 12:1-6 and 13:14-17.

How did Abram respond to God's calling in Genesis 12:4,7,8 and 13:4,18?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

What had Abram done to deserve God's calling and blessing?

When God promised Abram innumerable descendants, how many children did Abram have? (Read Genesis 11:29-30 for a hint!)

Insight:

"When you get there, go immediately to admissions to be sure you are registered. Then walk to your dorm room, unpack, and carefully put away your clothes. Right after that, get over to the bookstore so you get all your books. Here's a check for the book deposit." That might be reasonable direction for a young person going off to college, but wouldn't it be silly to tell that to your 2-year-old? We don't give lifelong directions to our children all at once, so why do we expect more of our Heavenly Father who really does know what is best for us? He takes us step by step not only so we can grow in our faith, but because we are not usually ready for his plan all at once. Remember that the next time you can't see all the specifics of where he is leading you.

Application (What does it mean to me?):

Thank God for his calling and blessing you, even though you have done nothing to deserve it.

Where in your life is God calling you to step out in obedience and trust him to lead – perhaps in serving others, deeper prayer, sacrificial giving, putting your children's future in his hands, or taking a new job? How are you responding?

Kingdom Quest Year 1, Lesson 11