GOD'S CALL TO ABRAM

Genesis 12:1-13:4 (Key verse: 12:2)

"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."

1. According to God's call, what was Abram to leave and where was he to go? (12:1) Think of what was involved in leaving; in going to an unknown place. Why was it necessary for him to leave his past life in order to receive God's blessing?

1. What did God promise Abram? (12:2-3) How did his present condition make this a difficult promise to believe? (11:30) Think about each part of the promise. What does it mean that "all peoples on earth will be blessed through you"?

1. What was Abram's response? (12:4) What do the words, "as the Lord had told him" suggest about Abram's faith? Where did Abram and his family go? (12:5) Who was Lot and what was his relationship to Abram? (Gen. 11:27–28)

1. When Abram arrived in Canaan what did he find? (Gen. 12:6) What additional promise did God make? (12:7) What was Abram's response? (Gen. 12:8; 13:3–4) What did this mean (12:7)? What other altar did Abram build? (8; 13:3,4) What might be the significance of this altar?
2. Why did Abram go to Egypt? (Gen. 12:10) Compare his motives in going to Egypt with his motives in going to Canaan? What plan did he make before entering Egypt? (12:11-13) Why did he make such a plan? What verses show how the plan worked out? (14-16) Contrast his life in Egypt with his life in Canaan? Why didn't he build altars in Egypt?

1. How did God protect Abram's family? (Gen. 12:17) Why did Pharaoh rebuke him and send him away? (Gen. 12:18–19) What can we learn here about God? About the weaknesses in men of faith? How did Abram show his repentance? (Gen. 13:1–4 parallel this with Revelation 2:4–5) What can you learn here about God’s faithfulness (2 Timothy 2:13)?