

TEACHER BACKGROUND & PREPARATION SHEET For Teacher Study Only – Not Read Aloud

LESSON IDENTIFICATION

Week #: 8 Date: February 22, 2026 Lesson Title: God Calls Abram: Faith Begins with Trust Primary Scripture Passage(s): Genesis 12:1–9 Bible Timeline Placement: After the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11); beginning of God's covenant people

PURPOSE OF THIS LESSON

Children will learn that God personally calls people, speaks clearly through His Word, and asks for trusting obedience. This lesson teaches that faith means trusting God even when we do not yet know all the details. God's promise to Abram begins His plan to bless the whole world through Jesus Christ.

BOOK & PASSAGE BACKGROUND

Book Name: Genesis Traditional Author: Moses Approximate Date Written: Around 1400 BC Original Audience: The people of Israel Purpose of the Book: To show God as Creator, covenant-maker, and promise-keeper, and to explain how God began His plan of salvation.

HISTORICAL & CULTURAL CONTEXT

Abram lived in a time when most people worshiped many false gods. Families usually stayed in one place, near extended relatives, land, and protection. Leaving one's homeland meant leaving safety, comfort, and identity. When God called Abram to go to an unknown land, He was asking for deep trust and obedience.

IMMEDIATE BIBLICAL CONTEXT

Before this passage: Humanity rebelled at Babel, seeking greatness without God. God confused their language and scattered them (Genesis 11:1–9).

After this passage: God continues to repeat and expand His promises to Abram, eventually changing his name to Abraham and forming a nation (Genesis 15; 17).

Why this moment matters: God begins His redemptive plan through one chosen family, leading ultimately to Jesus Christ (Matthew 1:1).

KEY THEOLOGICAL TRUTHS — APPLIED TO THIS WEEK'S LESSON

CORE TRUTH #1: What this lesson teaches about God God speaks, guides, and makes promises. God initiates the relationship, not Abram. "The LORD had said to Abram, 'Go...'" (Genesis 12:1).

CORE TRUTH #2: What this lesson teaches about people People are called to trust and obey God, even when the future is unknown. Abram obeyed without knowing where he was going (Genesis 12:4; Hebrews 11:8).

CORE TRUTH #3: What this lesson teaches about salvation God promised that “all peoples on earth will be blessed through you” (Genesis 12:3). This points forward to Jesus, through whom salvation comes to all nations (Galatians 3:8).

CORE TRUTH #4: Trusting God’s Word God’s promises are reliable and fulfilled over time. God kept His promise to Abram exactly as He said (Joshua 21:45).

CORE TRUTH #5: God as Trinity God the Father makes the promise, God the Son fulfills the promise through salvation, and God the Holy Spirit helps God’s people trust and obey. God is one God in three Persons (Matthew 28:19).

RELIABILITY OF SCRIPTURE

Genesis reflects accurate ancient geography and people groups. The promises to Abram are repeatedly confirmed throughout Scripture, showing unity across centuries (Genesis 12 → Matthew 1 → Acts 3:25).

APOLOGETICS FOUNDATION

This event is believable because it fits real ancient migration patterns and is confirmed by later biblical writers. The Bible consistently refers back to Abraham as a real historical person (Romans 4:1–3).

ANTICIPATED CHILD QUESTIONS

Q: Why did Abram leave his home? A: Because God told him to, and Abram trusted God’s Word (Genesis 12:4).

Q: Did Abram know where he was going? A: No, but he trusted God to lead him (Hebrews 11:8).

COMMON MISUNDERSTANDINGS

Children may think Abram obeyed because life would be easy. Clarify that trusting God does not mean life is easy—it means God is faithful.

GOSPEL CONNECTION

God’s promise to bless all nations through Abram is fulfilled in Jesus Christ, who brings forgiveness and salvation to the world (Luke 24:46–47).

TEACHER HEART PREPARATION

Prayer Focus: Ask God to help you teach with confidence and warmth, modeling trust in God’s Word. Remember that God uses simple obedience to accomplish His great plans.