

WED Night Discussion Guide

August 29, 2018

Genesis 12 and 15

1. What is the scariest thing God has ever asked you to do?
 - a. Raising kids, getting married, starting a new job, making a big move?
 - b. How were you able to get through it?
2. Read Genesis 12:1-3.
 - a. How do you think Abraham felt about starting over at 75 years old?
 - b. What are some of the challenges he would have faced?
 - i. Do we face some of the same things?
3. Read Genesis 12:4
 - a. Abraham went just as God told him to go. How can we show this same faith in our lives?
 - b. He went without knowing where he was going. Isn't this how the Christian life works? Do we ever know how it is all going to work out?
4. Read Genesis 12:10
 - a. Abraham leaves the promised land for Egypt because of a famine. On the one hand we can understand his reasoning, on the other hand we don't see anywhere that God tells Abraham to leave.
 - i. Have you ever started off strong in your faith only to have problems come up that cause you to run from where God wants you to be?
 1. What are some things that make it hard for us to trust God?
 2. How can we stand strong when things don't look good?
 - ii. How can challenges make us stronger when we do stand strong?
 - iii. How can even our failures in the midst of struggles make us stronger?
5. Read Genesis 12:11-14
 - a. Abraham is trying to solve a problem that hasn't even happened yet.
 - b. How can worry over something that may happen cause us to do things that aren't smart?
 - c. Have you ever done this?
 - i. How did it work out for you?
 - d. How does Abraham go from having the faith to leave everything behind to leaving the promised land and then lying about who his wife is?
 - e. Read Philippians 4:6, how does this help us in times of worry?
 - i. Where should we put our worries?

- f. Read Matthew 6:34
 - i. How can worry about tomorrow affect your performance today?
 - 1. Think about your attitude when you're worried.
 - 2. Think about your focus when you're worried.
- 6. Read Genesis 12:15-20
 - a. What do you think the conversation was like on the journey out of Egypt?
 - b. Did you notice that the solution to Abraham's problem (the famine) didn't work out, he is kicked out Egypt almost as soon as he got there.
 - c. If you were God what would your response have been to Abraham?
- 7. Read Genesis 15:1-8
 - a. Notice that God's response is to comfort Abraham not beat him down.
 - i. How does this show God's mercy to us in our unbelief?
 - b. How does God's promise to Abraham become reality? When God promises that he is going to have more descendants than can be counted how does this happen?
 - i. Read Galatians 3:16
 - ii. Read Galatians 3:29
 - c. Look at verse 6, how does this compare to our salvation? Read Romans 4:1-4.
 - i. Notice that Paul uses this to defend salvation by faith alone.
 - 1. How does this help us in our security in our own salvation?
- 8. Read Genesis 15:9-20
 - a. Notice in verse 17 that God passes through the middle of the animals to show that this covenant is based on who He is not on who Abraham is.
 - i. How does this help us understand the gospel?
 - ii. Is our salvation based on our promise to God or His promise to us through Jesus?
- 9. What is the most important lesson you learn from looking at Abraham's life?