

Missionaries

Lesson -2 Abraham: The First Missionary

Memory Verse **Hand Out Scriptures to read**

Galatians 3:6–8 (NKJV) *just as Abraham “believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.”⁷ Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham.⁸ And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, “In you all the nations shall be blessed.”*

Three of the world’s major faiths, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, are sometimes called the “Abrahamic faiths.”

Abraham was not a Jew, A Hebrew was a descendant of Eber one who crossed over. “the opposite side”. Genesis 10:21

Abram “the father is exalted”; Abraham, “the father of multitudes”

First Step Out - 650 Miles 3 months?

Genesis 11:31–32 *And Terah took his son Abram and his grandson Lot, the son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, his son Abram’s wife, and they went out with them from Ur of the Chaldeans to go to the land of Canaan; and they came to Haran and dwelt there.³² So the days of Terah were two hundred and five years, and Terah died in Haran.*

The Call of Abraham

Genesis 12:1–3 (NKJV) *Now the Lord had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, From your family And from your father’s house, To a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.³ I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”* **422 miles**

422 years after the last recorded communication with Noah.

Psa 27:10 *When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up.* **He had to say goodbye to family twice!**

Luke 14:26, 27 *If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.*

***Hebrews 11:8 (NKJV)** *By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.*

1. I will make you a great nation;

This promise meant much to Abram who had no child. his wife had been long barren, so long that if he believe, it must be purely built upon that power which can raise from of stones children unto Abraham.

2. I will bless you And make your name great;

By deserting his country he lost his name not for that, God said trust me, and I will make you a greater reputation than you would ever have there.

3. I will bless those who bless you, And curse him who curses you;

I will make you the criteria for how I bless and curse others.

4. Thou shalt be a blessing .

That is, thy life shall be a blessing to the places where thou shalt sojourn. By worshiping the true God. The ground was cursed by Adam’s sin.

5. In you shall all the families of the earth shall be blessed.

The Messiah would come through his line.

Joshua 24:2, 3 *And Joshua said unto all the people, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Your fathers dwelt on the other side of the flood in old time, [even] Terah, the father of Abraham, and the father of Nachor: **and they served other gods.** And I took your father Abraham from the other side of the flood, and led him throughout all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his seed, and gave him Isaac. **Over a 1000 mile journey.***

“Idolatry invited him on every side, but in vain. Faithful among the faithless, uncorrupted by the prevailing apostasy, he steadfastly adhered to the worship of the one true God.” - PP 125

Out Of Babylon Into Christ Fold

2Cor 6:17, 18 *Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean [thing]; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.*

***Revelation 18:4** *And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.*

Hebrews 11:14-16 *For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.*

The LORD Appeared To Abram (Canaanites were in the land)

Acts 7:2-4 *The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Haran, "and said to him, 'Get out of your country and from your relatives, and come to a land that I will show you.'*

Abraham's Testimony to the Kings

Numerous kings were involved in the battle for Sodom, and Abraham came out the victor.

Genesis 14:21–23 (NKJV) *Now the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, and take the goods for yourself." ²² But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have raised my hand to the Lord, God Most High, the Possessor of heaven and earth, ²³ that I will take nothing, from a thread to a sandal strap, and that I will not take anything that is yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich'—*

"The worshiper of Jehovah had not only rendered a great service to the country, but had proved himself a man of valor. It was seen that righteousness is not cowardice, and that Abraham's religion made him courageous in maintaining the right and defending the oppressed. His heroic act gave him a widespread influence among the surrounding tribes. On his return, the king of Sodom came out with his retinue to honor the conqueror. He bade him take the goods, begging only that the prisoners should be restored. By the usage of war, the spoils belonged to the conquerors; but Abraham had undertaken this expedition with no purpose of gain, and he refused to take advantage of the unfortunate, only stipulating that his confederates should receive the portion to which they were entitled."—Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 135.

Exemplar of Faith

Genesis 15:5–6 (NKJV) *Then He brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶ And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.*

John 8:56 *"Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad."*

***Hebrews 11:9–10** (NKJV) *By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; ¹⁰ for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.*

"Trusting the divine promise, without any advance assurance of its fulfillment, he abandoned everything dear to follow where God should lead." Can you imagine him explaining this to Sarah?

No Photos or Video or basic maps. What shall I pack?

Galatians 3:29 (NKJV) *And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.*

John 8:39–40 (NKJV) *They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham. ⁴⁰ But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this.*

Building Altars to God

Gen 12:7 *And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: **and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him. He claimed the promise!***

Genesis 12:8 *...And he pitched his tent with Bethel toward the sea and Ai on the east. **And he built an altar there** to Jehovah, and called upon the name of Jehovah. **BETHEL (Bethel; house of God) AI = Ruin** **When his tent was moved, the altar remained.***

Abraham, the Wanderer

Hebrews 11:13 (NKJV) *These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.*

A fugitive is running from home, A vagabond has no home; A stranger is away from home, a wanderer is searching for a home, and a PILGRIM is on his way home.

Hebrews 11:37–38 (NKJV) *They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented—³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.*

Moreh at Shechem (Gen. 12:6, 7)

Hebron (Gen. 13:18–14:20)

Mamre (Gen. 18:1, 20–33)

Mount Moriah (Gen. 22:1–14) Down to Egypt

Genesis 21:33–34 (NKJV) *Then Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beersheba, and there called on the name of the Lord, the Everlasting God. ³⁴ And Abraham stayed in the land of the Philistines many days.*

In Genesis 12 the Hebrew reads literally, “And God said to Abram, ‘Go for yourself from your land.’” He was told to go “for himself”; that is, for his own sake.

***1 Timothy 4:16 (NKJV)** *Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.*

Joshua 24:2–3 (NKJV) *And Joshua said to all the people, “Thus says the Lord God of Israel: ‘Your fathers, including Terah, the father of Abraham and the father of Nahor, dwelt on the other side of the River in old times; and they served other gods. ³ Then I took your father Abraham from the other side of the River, led him throughout all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his descendants and gave him Isaac.*

Abraham: A Missionary in His Own House

Genesis 18:18–19 (NKJV) *since Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? ¹⁹ For I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the Lord, to do righteousness and justice, that the Lord may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him.”*

Twice he semi-lied saying Sarah was his sister (*Gen. 12:11–13, 20:2*). Some missionaries are converted in the mission field.

Genesis 26:4–5 (NKJV) *And I will make your descendants multiply as the stars of heaven; I will give to your descendants all these lands; and in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; ⁵ because Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws.”*

Genesis 24:1–4 *Now Abraham was old, well advanced in age; and the Lord had blessed Abraham in all things. So Abraham said to the oldest servant of his house, who ruled over all that he had, “Please, put your hand under my thigh, and I will make you swear by the Lord, the God of heaven and the God of the earth, that you will not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell; but you shall go to my country and to my family, and take a wife for my son Isaac.”*

“God called Abraham to be a teacher of His word, He chose him to be the father of a great nation, because He saw that Abraham would instruct his children and his household in the principles of God’s law. And that which gave power to Abraham’s teaching was the influence of his own life. His great household consisted of more than a thousand souls, many of them heads of families, and not a few but newly converted from heathenism.”—Ellen G. White, *Education*, p. 187.

A Good Land

Deu 8:7-9 *For the LORD thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills; A land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey; A land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any [thing] in it; a land whose stones [are] iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass.*

The happiest place on earth for him was where God wanted him to be.

Eph 1:3, 4 *Blessed [be] the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly [places] in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:*

Ur Light, or the moon city, a city “of the Chaldees,” the birthplace of Haran the largest city of Shinar or northern Chaldea, and the principal commercial center of the country as well as the center of political power. It stood near the mouth of the Euphrates, on its western bank, and is represented by the mounds (of bricks cemented by bitumen) of el-Mugheir, i.e., “the bituminated,” or “the town of bitumen,” now 150 miles from the sea and some 6 miles from the Euphrates, a little above the point where it receives the Shat el-Hie, an affluent from the Tigris. It was formerly a maritime city, as the waters of the Persian Gulf reached thus far inland. Ur was the port of Babylonia, whence trade was carried on with the dwellers on the gulf, and with the distant countries of India, Ethiopia, and Egypt. It was abandoned about 500 B.C., but long continued, like Erech, to be a great sacred cemetery city, as is evident from the number of tombs found there.