

Genesis 12:1-9 Devotions

☐ Monday - Chosen By God.

Genesis 12:1

Abraham, like his father before him, worshiped man-made idols (Josh. 24:2). How then did Abraham choose God? He didn't. He was not even seeking God, for "there is no one who seeks for God ... not even one" (Psa. 52:2-3, Rom. 3:11). Rather, God chose Abraham out of the kind intention of His will (Eph. 1:4-6), not because He was good, but because he was not; for God delights in making something out of nothing, that His glory might be put on display.

Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-29

☐ Tuesday - The Gift of Faith.

Genesis 12:1

On what basis was Abraham saved? By good works? No, "If Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God" (Rom. 4:2). What does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness" (Rom. 4:3). Yet even the belief in God that Abraham exercised had to be given to him by God, for faith is not a work of the flesh, but a fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22), and the gift of God (Eph. 2:8).

Read 1 Peter 1:3, Philippians 1:29, Acts 13:48

☐ Wednesday - He Holds the Future.

Genesis 12:1

The Lord said to Abraham, "Go forth from your country... to the land which I will show you" (Gen. 12:1). Hebrews adds, by faith Abraham went out, "not knowing where he was going" (Heb. 11:8). God did not reveal the specifics of His plan to Abraham, nor is He required to do so for us. But even though we may not know what the future holds, we know Who holds the future.

Read Proverbs 16:9; Jeremiah 10:23

☐ Thursday - Leave & Cleave.

Genesis 12:1-2

"Now the Lord said to Abraham, 'Go forth from your country, and from your relatives and from your father's house ... and I will bless you'" (Gen. 12:1-2). The relationship between God and His people is like a marriage covenant (Eph. 5:22-32, 2 Cor. 11:2). Just as husband and wife are called to leave all other suitors and cleave to one another (Gen. 2:24), so Abraham was called to leave his old way of life and cleave to Christ. God's call to separation was a necessary condition of blessing in Abraham's life, as it is for all God's people today.

Read 2 Corinthians 6:14-18

☐ Friday - The Tent & the Altar

Genesis 12:8

"Then [Abraham] proceeded from there to the mountain on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the Lord and called upon the name of the Lord" (Gen. 12:8). Abraham pitched a tent, rather than live in the cities of Canaan, thereby declaring himself a stranger and a pilgrim; and he built an altar thereby proclaiming himself a worshiper of God. "The altar and the tent together sum up the believer's life" (Griffith-Thomas).

Read Hebrews 11:8-16