

GENESIS

F O U N D A T I O N S

Genesis 12 & 13 Discussion Questions

May 2, 2004

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1. Announcements

- a. **Married Couples Retreat** - It is official, the Rock Marriage Retreat is coming!
 - **Who:** Married Couples
 - **Where:** La Quinta Resort in Palm Desert
 - **When:** July 9-11
 - **Cost** - \$250 Per Couple
 - **Register Today online!!!**
 - **<http://www.therocksandiego.org/marriageretreat>**

- b. **The Tijuana House Building Ministry** will be going down to build houses soon. If you have questions, or would like to sign up, contact us.

2. Memory Verse

Genesis 15:6, "And he believed in the Lord, and He accounted it to him for righteousness".

3. Discussion Questions

- 1) If we were to look around our country, where can we see the hand of God blessing us? Is it in the wealth and power? Is that consistent with Biblical truth?
- 2) God called Abram to obedience. To follow Him beyond what he could see. God told him He would show him a land. He did not say He would give it to him nor did He say what it was. Any applications here in your life?
- 3) Abram's faith is remembered in Heb 11. This should remind us all that it is by faith that we can only please God.
- 4) Some read this as for Abram's sake he had to leave His fathers house. It was his comfort zone, what he knew, or what could have tempted or pulled Him down the easiest. Luke 14:26 speaks about how our love for God in comparison to our love for our family should be seen as "hatred". We must love God that much more and be willing to leave what we know for what He has promised.
 - a. Share a time when you had a similar situation to obey God like Abram did. What were your hesitations if any and what made you act out in obedience?
- 5) What Land do you need to leave in order to obey God? Is it friends, family, relationships, a job, a place, a comfortable sin, etc...? Lack of faith and obedience in God is holding you back. Stop making lame excuses and get off your tail.
- 6) We must always remember when God makes a promise He will come through 100% of the time. Sometimes the way in which he fulfills promises in our life may not be our way, but our ways are not His ways, His are infinitely better. How can this be applied to your life, to your family relationships, your friends, and your ministry?
- 7) By no means does Abrams example give us freedom to lie, however this reiterates that none of us are excluded from sin no matter how holy we are or think we are. There is no question we all will sin, the determining is how extreme will we be to avoid sin, and how faithful and fired will our lives be in response to the promises God has given us. Never should we doubt God and his protection, as He promised in His word "I will never leave you nor forsake you". As long as Jesus Christ has our back,



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we should live a life fearing no man. How can you apply this to your life, to your family relationships, your friends, and your ministry?

- 8) The journey taken by Abram would be the inspiration for one of the major travel routes in the Middle East. The desire to control this route by future empires would cause countless battles and strife between countries. Can you name the route?
 - a. Answer: The Kings' Highway
- 9) The journey of faith that Abram was called to travel was quite an adventure (thousands of miles into foreign land). What journey of faith is calling you to take?
- 10) How could a better understanding of the historical and social aspects of the Jewish struggle help you to understand the bible better?
- 11) . Like Lot many of us give in to our selfish desires that have been born in us. At the moment we chose what is best to satisfy our flesh without seeing down the road. We may even refuse to look ahead because were so selfish. Selfishness is not godliness and it can only lead to destruction. A destruction that may cost much more than we had imagined.
 - a. Examine your life. Where are you fooling yourself in the area of selfish choices? Are you dating, working, living, dreaming and scheming in the Jordan Valley? Where have you hardened your convictions and given into that dangerous slope of compromise? Get real with yourself and kill your selfishness before you and others get destroyed.
- 12) Think for 30 sec of a conflict you have with someone, now ask yourself, have you done everything possible to resolve it? Stop just reading about the great examples of humility and meekness and put them into practice. Put your desires aside, be an example, and don't worry about what people will say about you. Remember we should be living to please God and not man.
- 13) We've all the heard the saying, "everything that looks good to you is not good for you. Prov. 14:12: "There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death" From the very first sin until now man has been deceived by what is pleasing to the eyes. Due to our strong and sometimes overpowering desires of our flesh and it's quest for instant gratification, we are blinded to the potential dangers and sometimes deadly consequences. Never underestimate our sinful nature, but also know that when we allow God to take control of our mind, body and soul the battle in most cases is easier. The next time you are enticed by something pleasing to your eyes, stop, think and count the cost. Is there an area in your life that you are being blinded by your fleshly/worldly desires? If not praise God. Ask God right now to remove it or remove you!