

Overcomer: Abraham

(Overcoming Fear of the Unknown)

Wylie United Methodist Church
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – June 27, 2021

Genesis 12:1-5

1 The Lord had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. 2 "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." 4 So Abram left, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran.

1. MANY TIMES GOD ASKS US TO FOLLOW HIM INTO THE UNKNOWN

Genesis 12:1

1 The Lord had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you.

Matthew 4:19-20

19 "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." 20 At once they left their nets and followed him.

Hebrews 11:1

1 Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

2. THINGS USUALLY DON'T GO WELL WHEN WE RESPOND OUT OF FEAR

- Claimed Sarah was his sister twice out of fear (Gen 12 & 20)
- Fathering Ishmael with Hagar while not trusting God would allow Sarah to conceive (Gen 16)

3. GOD ALWAYS COMES THROUGH WHEN WE TRUST HIM AND RESPOND IN FAITH

Abraham trusted God would come through:

- He packed up and moved as the Lord had told him (age 75)
Genesis 12:4
So Abram left, as the Lord had told him...
- He trusted God would provide an heir (Abraham was 100, Sarah was 90)
Genesis 17:19
19 Then God said, "... your wife Sarah will bear you a son, and you will call him Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him.
- He trusted God when told to sacrifice Isaac
Genesis 22:2-3
2 Then God said (to Abraham), "Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about." 3 Early the next morning Abraham got up and saddled his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac.

CONCLUSION

Genesis 15:6

6 Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

What is God asking you to trust Him with today?