

**Daily Bible Study Guide** for September 29 – October 4, 2008

“By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he lived as an alien in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs of the same promise; for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.” Hebrews 11:8-10

**Monday, September 29**

Read: Hebrews 11:8-10

1. In what two ways did Abram (later called Abraham) demonstrate his faith in God?

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2. In verse 8, what did Abram know by faith? What did he not know?

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3. Have you ever had to obey God by faith not knowing what the end result of your obedience to Him would be?

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4. What motivated Abram to obey God?

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5. Discussion/Application: In what way are we aliens? (See Philippians 3:20-21) In what way are we no longer aliens? (See Ephesians 2:11-22)

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**Tuesday, September 30**

Read: Genesis 12:1-3

1. What two things did God tell Abram to do? (“You shall be a blessing” (literally, “Be a blessing”) is the second command.)

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2. God's promises to Abram were conditional, that is, based on his obedience to the Lord. What three things did God promise to do if Abram obeyed the first command in verse 1?

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3. What three things did God promise to do if Abram obeyed the second command at the end of verse 2?

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4. Who benefited by Abram's obedience?

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5. Discussion/Application: Are there any commands that God gives us today that will result in His blessings? Name some, if you can.

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**Wednesday**, October 1

Read: Genesis 12:4-9

1. Using a map in your Bible or another Bible lands map, trace Abram's route as described in today's reading. Roughly how far did Abram travel?

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2. Using today's reading and these two references (Genesis 13:1-8; 22:1-9) answer the following questions:

3. Where was each altar built? (Locate each area on your map if you can.)

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4. Why did Abram build each altar?

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5. Discussion/Application: Have you built any "altars" to the Lord? If not, what kind of altar might you build for Him?

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**Thursday**, October 2

Read: Genesis 13:1-13

1. How did the Lord show Abram the land He wanted him to possess?

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2. We usually view strife as a negative thing, yet the Lord can use it for His purposes. (See Acts 15:36-41) What was Abram's attitude while dividing the land?

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3. Do you think Abram and Lot knew the condition of the people who lived in Sodom?

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4. What can you learn from today's reading about "obvious choices" and "right choices"?

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5. Discussion/Application: How are "obvious" choices and "right" choices being used to influence voters during the Presidential Campaign?

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**Friday, October 3**

Read: Genesis 13:14-18

1. Compare verses 10 and 11 with verses 14 and 15. What is the major difference between Lot's temporary inheritance of this land and Abram's permanent inheritance?

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2. How did each man respond to their right to the land? (See verse 12 for Lot's response.)

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3. Besides the real estate, how else did the Lord promise to bless Abram?

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4. Why do you think God's promise was so important to Abram?

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5. Discussion/Application: Abram's offspring were going to be "as the dust of the earth." What other similes describe Abram's descendants? (Genesis 22:7) To what degree are you a part of the fulfillment of the promise to Abram?

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**Saturday, October 4**

Read: 2 Chronicles 20:7; Isaiah 41:8; James 2:23

1. Abraham was the friend of God. What does that mean?

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2. Who is your closest human friend? How is that relationship different than any other you have?

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3. In what way do you think Abram and God's relationship was unique?

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4. What role did faith play in strengthening that friendship?

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5. Discussion/Application: How, specifically, can you become a closer friend to God?

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