

FEAR OR FAITH?

GENESIS 12:10-20

Sunday, September 15, 2024 | Wawasee Bible | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

Abram faced a big **LIFE OR DEATH** decision, (12:10)

God made some big promises 12:1-3

↑ Abram chose fear over faith 12:10

then he faced it **AGAIN** —and **FAILED** again, (12:11-16)

self preservation is often our achilles heal Philippians 2:3-4; James 3:16-17; Rom. 2:8; Jer. 45:5; Matt. 23:12; Prov. 16:18

others are brought along for the ride

↓ yet God remained **FAITHFUL**. (12:17-20)

because of *his* goodness, not Abram's (or ours) 2 Timothy 2:13; Psalm 105:12-15

what is it you're afraid of?



Text us at **833-271-8805**.
— Text **APP** to get our app.

Text this number anytime for prayer. Just say, "**Pray for...**" followed by your request.

Or if you just need someone to talk to, start texting us with whatever's going on and someone will be in touch via text.



Study Guide

Questions & Scripture for Further Study

What is this? — Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, & live life together. **We call them Life Groups.** The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a related part of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on a Connect Card or at the Connect Desk!

Welcome to Life Group!

Getting to Know You

Part of our goal at Life Group is just learning more about each other. Toward that end, here's a *random* question to discuss and break the ice as you get going. Have everyone answer:

If you needed to change your name, what name would you choose?

Digging Deeper – A Bible Study

Use this guide for further personal and group study this week. For the most impact in your life and in your group, *work through it on your own before you gather with your Life Group.* If your Life Group isn't gathering this week, use this guide for further study personally.

1. What's the biggest risk you've ever had to take in your life? Have you ever had to risk your life for something?
2. **Read Genesis 12:10-20.** Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time, that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
Discuss it with your group before moving on.
3. Though not explicitly stated, Abram clearly had some doubts about God's plan for his life. Have you ever had those doubts? Were you tempted to take matters into your own hands without seeking God?
 - Maybe you did take them into your own hands. In either case, later, were you able to see God's hand bringing you through, even though you thought you'd been left on your own?
4. Discuss the differences between the three wife/sister accounts in **Gen 12:10-20; 20:1-18; 26:6-11**. What does the **Genesis 12** account leave out and why? How do Abram's actions affect Sarai and Pharaoh (in contrast to **Genesis 12:3**)?
 - Reflect on times when you, like Sarai, were carried along by someone else's decision. Did you fear that they were leading you into a bad situation, or did you have faith in their leadership?
 - Discuss how the drive for self-preservation can sometimes cloud our judgment and obscure our view of God's promises.



BIBLICAL FAITH IS...

believing God's Word

and acting upon it

no matter how I feel

because **God promises** a good result.

(—and he keeps all his promises!)

WELCOME TO WAWASEE!

This is who we hope you grow to *become* at Wawasee Bible...

If I'm truly growing as a follower of Jesus, I should be growing in the ways that I am...

- 1 | **Receiving From God.** Am I reading the Word regularly? When am I gathering to hear the Word taught? What fruit of the Spirit do I see growing in my life?
- 2 | **Responding To God.** How am I talking to and listening to God regularly? What are some healthy spiritual habits I'm working on (things like giving, scripture memory, repentance, rest, etc.)?
- 3 | **Receiving From Others.** Where and how am I in community/friendship with other Christians in our church who have a window to speak into my life?
- 4 | **Moving Toward Others.** How and where am I contributing to and initiating community with other Christians in our church? (Or am I only consuming?)
- 5 | **Going to those Far from God.** How am I regularly going toward those who are far from God—loving them, sharing God's Story and my own story? When was the last time I shared God's story and/or my faith story? Who is on my PEARL list?

WORD FIND IN THE WORD

Find the words from a passage related to this week's message.

Word Find: Psalm 105:12-15 (NLT)

Find the words **bolded** below.

12 He **said** this **when** they were few in **number**, a **tiny group** of **strangers** in **Canaan**.

13 They **wandered** from **nation to nation**, from one **kingdom** to **another**.

14 Yet he did not let **anyone oppress** them. He **warned kings** on their **behalf**:

15 "Do not **touch** my **chosen people**, and do not **hurt** my **prophets**."

L	T	I	F	F	R	K	S	K	B	I	U
E	N	N	T	E	G	C	K	T	I	N	Y
G	R	O	U	P	P	L	K	I	N	G	S
P	E	O	P	L	E	B	E	H	A	L	F
P	K	C	H	O	S	E	N	D	T	A	H
R	S	A	I	D	G	W	W	O	I	M	K
O	K	N	P	A	S	A	H	P	O	I	Y
P	P	A	N	Y	O	N	E	P	N	C	O
H	W	A	R	N	E	D	N	R	U	Y	P
E	A	N	D	T	H	E	R	E	M	K	C
T	O	U	C	H	U	R	T	S	B	E	S
S	T	R	A	N	G	E	R	S	E	L	E
T	A	K	I	N	G	D	O	M	R	T	L

life groups Study Guide (continued)

5. Pastor Josh mentioned that **Psalm 105:12-15** seems to allude to the story of Genesis 12:10-20. Take some time to study it below and mark it up. Then discuss the questions that follow.

- a. **Circle or highlight** any words or phrases that catch your attention.
- b. **Underline** what you think is important to remember.
- c. **Put an X** next to anything that confuses you.

- 12 When they were few in number, of little account, and sojourners in it,
- 13 wandering from nation to nation, from one kingdom to another people,
- 14 he allowed no one to oppress them; he rebuked kings on their account,
- 15 saying, "Touch not my anointed ones, do my prophets no harm!" **PSALM 105:12-15 (ESV)**

- How can recalling God's faithful deeds of the past (as in Psalm 105) strengthen your resolve about His ability to direct your future?

➔ *Abram's mistakes are not referred to later in Scripture—only his obedience and faith. What does that say to you about God's character?* How does this understanding affect your view of God? How does it affect your own faith?

Taking It Home

- What currently represents "Canaan" for you in your life? What represents "Egypt"?
- How do you think God wants you to respond to the "Canaan" and "Egypt" in your life?
- How can you support each other in your resolve to remain in your "Canaan" and trust God?

Prayer

As you close, take time to pray for each other. **Divide into separate groups of men and women.** Feel free to share requests, just be sure each person gets prayed for.

This week's Study Guide is adapted from Grigoni, Michael R., et al. Abraham: Following God's Promise. Lexham Press, 2012; as well as a study by North Coast Church in Vista, CA. North Coast is a sister church of Wawasee Bible and part of the EFCA.



Wawasee Bible is part of the Evangelical Free Church of America. View our Statement of Faith online at wawaseebible.com/beliefs. Learn more about the EFCA at efca.org.

Wawasee Community Bible Church

2035 East 1300 North | Milford, Indiana 46542 | 574-658-9161 | wawaseebible.com

JOURNEY UNCHARTED

Sunday, September 15, 2024

PART 2

FEAR OR FAITH?

GENESIS 12:10-20



We're Glad You're Here Today!

Scan QR code for our **App** with **Bulletin, Connect Card, & more.**

<https://wawasee.today>