

Abram to Abraham, Waiting on the Lord

March 16th 2014

REVIEW

- ABRAM AND GOD'S PROMISE – GENESIS 12:2-3, 7
- ABRAM AND THE COVENANT- ALL ABOUT GOD

How are you doing with following or waiting on the Lord?

1) What was the last thing God told you to do? Are you doing it?

Genesis 15:5- He took him outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." Also Genesis 13:14-15

Abram was told God would bless through his offspring.

Often it's hard for us to follow or wait on the Lord but think of the last thing the Lord instructed you to do, are you doing it?

2) Am I doing what God's Word says while waiting/ following God?

Tom Elliff says, "we already have been given more than we are currently doing."

Seeking Him in His Word, prayer, focused time, leading my spouse and kids.

3) Am I trusting in God's promises now?

Abram knew of God's promise clearly---he wasn't fully relying on it.

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6

4) Have I put myself in a position to hear from the Lord?

It's hard to hear from the Lord while running!

It's hard to hear from the Lord while in sin!

It's hard to hear from the Lord when you are not obeying what is right.

5) Realize wait doesn't always mean no!

From Abram's covenant at 75 until the birth of the seed (Isaac) was 25 years. Genesis 12:1-4 and Genesis 16:16 and 21:5

Abram was 86 when Ishmael was born. Genesis 16:16

He was 99 at the time of the covenant of circumcision. Genesis 17:1

Wait didn't mean no ... it meant - just wait.

6) What if I don't wait and take plans into my hands?

Disobey God

Consequences- Hagar mistreated, Sarai bitter, Later Ishmael and Hagar were sent away causing distress for Abraham (Gen. 21:11)

We miss the blessing of trusting and waiting with God.

7) Regardless of what is going on God is still faithful.

God kept His promise anyway (covenant)

Abram and Sarah's disobedience brought turmoil. Still experienced God's covenant but turmoil in the home.

God gives Abram a new name- Genesis 17:5-8

Are you following/ waiting on the Lord? Are you doing what scripture tells you to do as you follow/ wait? Are you running ahead of God? Are you taking matters into your own hands?

Abram's fall- unbelief or willingness to give in

God's response- keeps his promise- covenant- God keeps his promise when we don't.

Say good I can do what I want and God's plan will still happen...partly true...God's plan will prevail but we may be punished and affect others with our choice. Our choices often cause strife...problems....bad name for the Lord but we will not thwart His plan.

God gives new name with used blessing one nation to many and changed his name to go with it

Circumcision- obedience

Name change-