

Thru the Bible, Lesson #4, Abraham, hero of the faith

### **Lesson Summary**

This lesson introduces Abraham as a central figure in Genesis and a key example of how God chooses and shapes His people. While Abraham is often called a hero of the faith, the lesson makes clear that the true hero throughout the Bible is God Himself. Abraham's story is not primarily about human greatness, but about God's grace, initiative, patience, and faithfulness in working through imperfect people.

The lesson traces Abraham's journey from the sophisticated city of Ur to the promised land of Canaan, highlighting the radical nature of God's call. Abraham is invited into a new kind of relationship with God, not one defined by fear or ritual, but by trust and friendship. Along the way, Abraham shows both faith and failure, reminding us that God's purposes are not undone by human weakness.

Finally, the lesson emphasizes the balance between grace and effort. Abraham is chosen by grace, yet his faith is demonstrated through obedience, perseverance, and costly trust. His life shows that faith is not merely belief, but belief woven together with action, as God continues to shape His people for His purposes.

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### **Ice-breaker Question**

When you hear someone described as a "hero of the faith," what qualities or actions usually come to mind?

### **Discussion Questions for a Group; Journal Questions for Individual Study**

1. Why is it important to understand Abraham's story as a "God-story" rather than primarily a story about Abraham's achievements?
2. How does Abraham's call to leave Ur challenge modern assumptions about comfort, security, and faithfulness to God?

3. In what ways do Abraham's failures, such as his time in Egypt or his impatience with God's promise, deepen rather than weaken the lesson of grace?
  4. How does the Bible present the balance between grace and effort in Abraham's life, and why is this balance important for Christian growth today?
  5. What does it mean to be called a "friend of God," and how does that idea reshape our understanding of obedience and trust?
  6. How does the testing of Abraham in Genesis 22 help us understand God's purpose in testing faith?
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**Life Application Suggestions, consider and respond**

1. Reflect on a place in your life where God may be calling you to trust Him beyond what feels comfortable or familiar.
2. Consider areas where impatience may be tempting you to "help God out." Ask what it would look like to wait in faith instead.
3. Examine how your faith is expressed in action. Identify one practical step of obedience God may be inviting you to take.

4. Take time this week to thank God for His grace, especially in moments where your faith has been imperfect.

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**Prayer Focus**

Thank God for His grace in calling and shaping His people. Pray for a faith that trusts God's promises, responds with obedience, and grows through both waiting and action.