

2. What does this story teach me about myself?

3. Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?

4. Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?

5. How does this story help me to live on mission better?



GOD'S COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM

Genesis 12-20

WHO IS IN CONTROL OF EVERYTHING? GOD IS IN CONTROL OF EVERYTHING IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH. NOTHING IS OUTSIDE OF GOD'S GOOD PLAN.

Abram and his wife Sarai were part of Noah's family who had spread out on the earth after the great flood. God chose Abram for a special plan. God promised to give Abram a large family and land for his family. "All the peoples on earth will be blessed through you," God said.

Abram obeyed God. He went to the land of Canaan. One night, God led Abram outside. "Look at the sky and count the stars, if you can," God said. "Your family will be that numerous," God promised. Abram believed God, and God was pleased.

God did something to show Abram that He would keep His covenant, or promise. First, God told Abram to bring five animals. He brought the animals, cut them in half, and laid the pieces across from each other. Then, when the sun was setting, Abram fell fast asleep.

While Abram slept, God told him what would happen in the future. When it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between the animals. This showed that God would be responsible for keeping His promise.

When Abram was 99 years old, God talked to him again. "You will be the father of many children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. They will become many nations, and I will be their God."

God changed Abram's name to Abraham, which means "Father of Many."

Christ Connection: God promised to bless all the world through Abraham. God sent Jesus from His home in heaven to be born on earth into Abraham's family. Through Jesus, all the nations of the earth are blessed because Jesus saves people from their sins.

