

We must act on our faith

- When the Lord told Abram to go, he went (Genesis 12:1-4; Hebrews 11:8-9)
- When God told Abraham to sacrifice Isaac, Abraham was ready to obey (Genesis 22:1-3; Hebrews 11:17-19)
 - Notice that he did not postpone his obedience; he “rose early in the morning” to do as God commanded (22:3)
 - It was after his obedience that God said, “...*now* I know you fear God...” (22:12)
- We must also act on our faith (James 2:14-26)

When God says go, it’s worth it

- Abram left home and familiar territory to enter an unknown land when God called him (Hebrews 11:8-9)
- He did this seeking after the promises of God (Hebrews 11:10, 13-16)
- In seeking these things, Abraham was blessed:
 - In this life (Genesis 13:2; 14:22-23)
 - In the life to come (Luke 16:22-23)
- When we follow God, it’s worth it
 - In this life (2 Corinthians 8:9; Ephesians 1:3)
 - In the life to come (Philippians 3:12-14; 20-21)

God is worthy of worship

- When the Lord promised the land to Abram’s offspring, Abram built an altar (Genesis 12:7)
- After leaving Egypt, Abram called on the name of the Lord where he had built the altar (Genesis 13:4)
- When Abram moved and settled by the oaks at Mamre, he built an altar (Genesis 13:18)
- When God appeared to Abram, Abram fell on his face (Genesis 17:3)
- He called on the name of the Lord in Beersheba (Genesis 21:33)

God keeps his promises

- God made three promises to Abraham
 - A great nation would be made of Abraham (Genesis 12:2)
 - Abraham’s descendants would be given the land (Genesis 12:7)
 - All families of the earth would be blessed in Abraham’s offspring (Genesis 12:3; 22:18)
- God fulfilled his promises
 - Israel became a great nation (Exodus 1:7)
 - Abraham’s descendants were given the land (Joshua 21:43-45)
 - All families of the earth are blessed in Abraham’s seed (Galatians 3:16)
- He keeps his promises to us (Titus 1:2)

God acts on his own time

- None of God’s promises to Abraham were immediately fulfilled
 - The great nation promise began to be fulfilled in Egypt (Exodus 1:7), approximately 200 years later

- The land promise was fulfilled in the days of Joshua (Joshua 21:43), approximately 500 years later
- The seed promise was fulfilled in Christ (Galatians 3:16), approximately 2,000 years later
- God fulfills his word on his time
 - He has made everything beautiful in its time (Ecclesiastes 3:11)
 - We must not count God as being slow to fulfil his promises (2 Peter 3:8-9)