

AO Devotional #5 – “A Faithful Response”

I have just started this book called *The Story* and it puts the Bible into chronological order. I’ve just started so I’m still in the early stages, but I’ve learned different lessons from stories we may have all heard as children.

Genesis 12:1-3

The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. 2 “I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

- This is what God promises to Abram (later known as Abraham)
- Continue reading in verse 4 it says, “So Abram went,..”
- Showing no hesitation Abram, taking his wife and nephew, responded to God’s calling

Q: How does our response look when God calls us??

Matthew 4:19-22

19 “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” 20 At once they left their nets and followed him. 21 Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, 22 and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

- They “at once left their nets and followed him”
- We’ve heard this scripture plenty of times but I believe it’s important to come back and see the responses of the people who were there with Jesus.
- In verse 22, “they left the boat and their father and followed him”

Q: What is it that we need to leave behind to have the response that these men had hear??

Jonah 1:1-3a

1The word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai: 2“Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me.” 3But Jonah ran away from the Lord.

Jonah 3:1-3a

1Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time: 2“Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you.” 3Jonah obeyed the word of the Lord and went to Nineveh.

- I love the book of Jonah because his response did not glorify God at first and I think a lot of us, including me, can relate to Jonah
- We tend to run away from what God is really calling us to do, this may be because of fear, doubt; ask yourself...

Q: Why am I running from what God is calling me to do?? What is holding me back??

When you get the chance, I want to encourage you to read the book of Jonah it is a great read!

If you feel God is calling you, turn to him and watch him work wonders! He is right there with you each step of the way like he was with Jonah, you just have to take that leap of faith and obey him!

Love you guys,

Braxton