

Living as Sons and Daughters of Abraham Series

Session 4 Focus: Meeting God in Famine

Key Scriptures: Genesis 12:10–20, 2 Peter 1:3-4

Recap of Sessions 1-3

- *God's call often requires leaving the familiar*
 - Abram stepped into God's promises without a clear roadmap. Following God often means stepping into the unknown and leaving what feels safe.
- *God's promise meets Abraham's deepest longings*
 - God promised Abram that all families of the earth would be blessed through him, that he would have offspring, and that his name would be great.
- *Abraham's call is also our call*
 - We are sons and daughters of Abraham through faith, not law. We have been given every spiritual blessing in Christ (Ephesians 3). Abraham's journey reminds us that God calls us into blessing—and to become a blessing.
- *God's timing is not limited by age*
 - Abram was 75 years old when God called him to leave Haran (Gen. 12:4). No one is "too late" for God's promises.
- *Taking What You Have*
 - Abraham didn't leave empty-handed; he brought the fruit of his past life. God doesn't waste our life skills, relationships, or experiences — He redeems them for new purposes.
- *Worship in the Waiting*
 - When you don't know what to do next, build an altar -- worship centers us in God's faithfulness.

Session 4

1. Famine: A Test of Trust

Abram was facing a *severe* famine in the land – can you imagine the pressure he felt? He had a large number of people for whom he was responsible, and found himself in circumstances that he hadn't anticipated. Many times in our own lives, we encounter situations that put a great deal of pressure on us and we don't know how God is going to come through for us.

2. Fear Opens the Door to Self-Preservation

Abram feared the Egyptians would kill him and take Sarai, so he encouraged her to say she was his sister. Since Abram didn't know how to trust God in this situation, he attempted to engineer his own outcome and avert what he perceived would be a problem if he was honest about his relationship with Sarai.

5. God Protects Abram Despite Failure

Following Abram and Sarai's choice to declare that she was his sister, Pharaoh took Sarai -- but God had Abram's back and intervened with plagues that brought the truth to light. Pharaoh released Abram with all he had, demonstrating that God was Abram's protector and provider, even in the face of Abram's fear and lack of trust.

6. The Purpose of Tests

Life's tests serve two purposes: 1) to show us where we now stand where we hadn't previously, because we now know God more intimately than we once did, and 2) to reveal areas where we *thought* we could stand -- but find we cannot.

7. Our Shared Journey With Abram

Like Abram, we too face "famines," pressures, and fears in life. We are called to keep our eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think Abram defaulted to fear instead of faith in Egypt?

2. What does God's protection reveal about His nature?

3. What stands out to you in Abram's response to the famine?

4. Think about a "famine season" you've experienced. What did you learn?

5. Which test in your life revealed growth? Which revealed weakness?

6. How does 2 Peter 1:3–4 connect to Abram in Egypt?

7. Where do you need to trust God instead of engineering your own outcome?

Weekly Challenge

1. **Identify Your “Egypt Response.”** *Reflect on one area where fear causes self-reliance instead of trust.*
2. **Write Down One Promise of God.** *Choose a specific Scripture promise that applies to that area.*
3. **Act in Faith Once This Week.** *Do one practical action reflecting trust rather than fear.*
4. **Pray Daily:** *“Lord, help me trust You in the places I am afraid. Open my eyes to Your provision, Your protection, and Your promises.”*
5. **Share Your Experience.** *Recount your victory to a friend, family member, or at class next week, even if the step was small.*