

TEEN TALK: ABRAHAM: FRIEND OF GOD; Theme: LESSONS FROM ABRAHAM

MEMORY VERSE: James 2:23; Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness, and he was called God's friend.

How would you feel if you were asked to leave your family, friends, school, home and everything you are familiar with to go to some faraway place. In fact you don't even know where it is you are going! For most of us nowadays, although it might be difficult, to leave friends and family, we have communication systems that keep us in touch with each other and we have maps and GPS to help us find our way. We can travel across the world in a few hours and we can communicate with almost anyone on the planet at any time.

BUT; LET'S GET INTO THE SANDALS OF ABRAM! Gen. 12: 1-7; God spoke to Abram: He told Abram "Leave your country, your people, your father's household and go to the land I will show you."

God is asking him to leave behind everything that is familiar to him.

How do you think Abram might feel about that? Excited, enthusiastic, nervous, afraid, WHAT ARE HIS OPTIONS? Go! Don't go! Wait for more instructions! Consider the outcome!

God gave Abram a promise: Gen. 12:2&3;

God said "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.

I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse;

and all the people on earth will be blessed through you."

Abram must have thought about his options. Should he believe God? Should he trust God?

If he doesn't go, he becomes a nobody. If he goes, he has the potential to become great.

WHAT DOES ABRAM CHOOSE? Gen. 12:4-8; Abram chose to do as the Lord had told him. He was seventy five years old when he set out from Haran. He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan and they arrived there.

Verse 7: The Lord appeared to Abram and said, "to your offspring I will give this land."

This became known as "The Promised Land"

Later on, in chap. 17: God changed Abram's name to Abraham.

He was a friend of God. (2 Chronicles 20:7)

Did Abram follow God's instructions? He left his country, but took his nephew along.

What were the consequences of his decisions? Gen. 13 tells about his conflict with Lot.

Did Abram become great? Abraham did become the Father of many nations.

And we can still read about Abraham today. His story is told throughout the world.

Discussion: WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM ABRAM'S CHOICES?

Consider our options and consequences. If we trust and believe God, we will be challenged but we have the opportunity to be a "Friend of God"!