

## Genesis 12 — Genuine Faith

### **Warm-Up Question:**

Have you ever bought something you thought was genuine but ended up being fake? How can you tell if one's faith is not genuine?

**READ: Genesis 11:27-12:9**

### **I. The SOURCE of Genuine Faith**

- ▶ How do we know from Gen. 11:27-32 that God did not choose Abram because of anything that Abram had to offer God?
- ▶ Chose some of these verses to read: Deut. 14:2; Matt. 22:14; John 6:44; 15:16; Eph. 1:3-4; 1 Thes. 1:4. Summarize the theological conclusion.

### **II. The SHAPE of Genuine Faith**

- ▶ How did Abram leaving his family reveal his faith and primary allegiance (12:1)? How might you know if there is anything in your life that might have a greater allegiance than God?
- ▶ What are the promises of God from 12:1-4a that surely motivated Abram to trust and obey God?
- ▶ What promises from God most motivate you to trust and obey God, especially when trusting and obeying is difficult?

### **III. The SEED of Genuine Faith**

- ▶ On what or whom is our faith ultimately grounded?
- ▶ From Galatians 3:7-9, 14, 29, who are true children of Abraham and what are their rewards of being children?
- ▶ Do you feel you are a child of God and if so, on what basis? How has your faith been the last week or two?

**What is one main take-away you want to apply in your life this week?**

### Going Deeper:

Read these quotes and discuss how they affect your faith:

"I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else."

- CS Lewis

"God is the highest good of the reasonable creature. The enjoyment of him is our proper; and is the only happiness with which our souls can be satisfied. To go to heaven, fully to enjoy God, is infinitely better than the most pleasant accommodations here. Better than fathers and mothers, husbands, wives, or children, or the company of any, or all earthly friends. These are but shadows; but the enjoyment of God is the substance. These are but scattered beams; but God is the sun. These are but streams; but God is the fountain. These are but drops, but God is the ocean."

- Jonathan Edwards

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