



READ: Genesis 12:1-4, 7 (NirV)

*The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's family. Go to the land I will show you. "I will make you into a great nation. And I will bless you. I will make your name great. You will be a blessing to others. I will bless those who bless you. I will put a curse on anyone who puts a curse on you. All nations on earth will be blessed because of you." So Abram went, just as the Lord had told him...
The Lord appeared to Abram...He said, "I will give this land to your family who comes after you." So Abram built an altar there to honor the Lord, who had appeared to him.*

ENTER THE STORY:

Out of the blue, and without warning, God called a man named Abram (soon to be Abraham) to pack up his things, leave the only home he had ever known, and go make a new home in a new place.

If God called you to pack everything up and leave the safety of your home, would you do it?

Abram did! When God called, he left everything behind, and even though he and his wife Sarai were old and gray and didn't even have one child yet, they believed that God would give them everything he promised!

God called Abram because he wanted to do something new through him. He wanted to bless Abram and his family so that they could share those blessings with others.

How could Abram share God's blessings? Well, with God's help, we will see Abram create a family, and out of that family will come lots and lots of people, and they will be very special to God. Out of all the other people on the earth, he will love them MOST! Out of ONE of those families, God will send someone special to make good on his promise to Abram -- that through one of Abram's children's, children's, children's, children -- the WHOLE WORLD would be blessed.

Do you know who this special someone is? Its Jesus!

Jesus happily left his home in heaven and came into our world. This means the blessing God gave to Abram was given to us, too, through JESUS! This is why we celebrate Christmas! Our wonderful, amazing Savior, Jesus, has come to help bring us back to God!

PRAY: *Jesus, it is so easy to get comfortable in our homes with all the things that we have and not listen for your voice calling out to us! Help us be like Abram and trust you no matter what. Help us believe you will always be true to your promises. Amen.*