

TONIGHT:

FAITH, FAMINE, AND FEAR

Genesis 12:10-13:18

Let's begin with
Genesis 12

12 The LORD had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.

Genesis 12:1–9

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."

⁴ **So Abram went**, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran.

⁵ He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.

Why was *Lot* a problem?

Why was *Lot* a problem?
He was *BAGGAGE*

⁴ So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran.

Genesis 12:4

What does the Bible say about
carrying *baggage*?

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, *let us throw off everything that hinders* and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us,

Hebrews 12:1–2

² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

What does the Bible say about
carrying *baggage*?

FAITH, FAMINE, AND FEAR

**Why are these three words
important?**

⁸ From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There **he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD.**

Genesis 12:8–9

⁹ Then Abram set out and continued toward the Negev.

Faith must always be ***tested***

¹⁰ Now there was a *famine* in the land, and **Abram went down to Egypt** to live there for a while because the *famine* was severe.

Genesis 12:10–13

¹¹ As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, “I know what a beautiful woman you are.

¹² When the Egyptians see you,
they will say, 'This is his wife.'
Then they will kill me but will let
you live.

¹³ Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you."

What *mistake(s)* did Abram
make?

LIFE'S FAMINES:
Is it *punishment* or
opportunity?

Famines in the Bible

¹⁰ Now there was a *famine* in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine was severe.

Genesis 12:10

26 Now there was a *famine* in the land—besides the previous famine in Abraham's time—and Isaac went to Abimelek king of the Philistines in Gerar.

Genesis 26:1–6

² The LORD appeared to Isaac and said, "**Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land where I tell you to live.**"

³ Stay in this land for a while, and I will be with you and will bless you. For to you and your descendants I will give all these lands and will confirm the oath I swore to your father Abraham.

⁶ So Isaac *stayed* in Gerar.

How does one survive
life's famines?

FLEE

or

FIGHT

Why does Abram try to
avoid life's *famine*?

WHY DID ABRAM TRY TO AVOID LIFE'S FAMINE?

1. **Selfish** - he feared for *his* life
2. Lack of **obedience**
3. Lack of **faith** in God's provision him and his family

¹¹ As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, “I know what a beautiful woman you are.

Genesis 12:11–13

¹² When the Egyptians see you,
they will say, 'This is his wife.'
Then they will **kill me** but will let
you live.

¹³ Say you are my sister, so that I
will be treated well for your sake
and my life will be spared
because of you."

¹⁶ He **treated Abram well** for her sake, and **Abram acquired** sheep and cattle, male and female donkeys, male and female servants, and camels.

Genesis 12:16

Our mistakes/mishaps
impact us and everyone
around us

The Cost of Wealth & Family

13 So Abram went up from Egypt to the Negev, with his wife and everything he had, and Lot went with him.

Genesis 13:1–4

² Abram had become very
wealthy in livestock and in silver
and gold.

³ From the Negev he went from place to place until he came to Bethel, to the place between Bethel and Ai where his tent had been earlier

⁴ and where he had first built an altar. There Abram called on the name of the LORD.

Why did **Abram** and **Lot**
part ways?

COVENANT RENEWED:

There Abram *called* on the
name of the LORD.

⁴ and where he had first built an altar. There Abram *called* on the name of the LORD.

Genesis 13:4

NEVER SETTLE

12 The LORD had said to Abram,
“*Go from* your *country*, your
people and your *father's*
household to the land I will
show you.”

Genesis 12:1

Why do we *settle*?

⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of *fear*, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

2 Timothy 1:7

⁹ Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be *afraid*; do not be *discouraged*, for the LORD your *God will be with you wherever you go.*"

Joshua 1:9

¹⁰ So do not fear, for *I am with you*; do not be dismayed, for *I am your God. I will strengthen you* and *help you*; I will *uphold you* with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10

Book of Genesis

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