

# Following God

Genesis 12.1-7

## Key Points:

- We are all called by God. What separates us is not whether we are called, but rather how we respond to that calling. God's call may be to move somewhere (like Abram), or to change the way we live, our priorities, how we spend our time, our relationships etc.
- God speaks to Abram (v.1) and Abram hears. Even though he's settled and comfortable in Harran, Abram hears God's calling and design on his life. If we want to know God's design and calling on your life, you need to listen for His voice. In
- Following God is often costly (v.1b). Abram had to leave his country, his people and his father's household in order to follow God. It can mean that the direction in which God is calling us to follow is uncomfortable.
- But, the promise of blessings outnumber the costs for Abram. It's a 7:3 ratio! We can trust God as we follow Him because His plans for us are beyond what we could imagine. It doesn't mean it won't be difficult, but it will be worth it.

## Questions:

1. Has there been a time in your life where you've felt called or prompted by God? Maybe it was to do something, or stop doing something, or to go somewhere or to talk to someone? Share with the group how it happened, and what you did.
2. What are some of the ways that God speaks to His people in the Bible? How do *you* listen for God's voice?
3. Put yourself in Abram's shoes. If God turned up tomorrow and said "Go...", how would you feel. Which relationships, places, possessions etc. would feel costly to leave behind? Is there anything that would be too costly to leave behind in order to follow God? Is this ok?
4. We are children of Abra(ha)m (c.f. Romans 4.13-16 and Galatians 3.7) and inheritors of the promises God made to him (v.2-3). Are they *all* relevant for us today?
5. Do we have a role in God's promises being fulfilled? What might 'being a blessing' look like in your home/workplace?
6. Read v.6-7. Are there any obstacles to God's promise in v.7 being fulfilled (c.f. Gen 15.3)? How do you respond when obstacles block your path of following God? How did Abram respond?
7. God doesn't reveal the extent of His plan to Abram. This requires Abram to trust God without having all the answers or being in control. Do you find that easy? Why/why not? Where are the opportunities for you to grow in faith by taking risks for God and stepping into situations where you're not in control and you don't have all the answers?