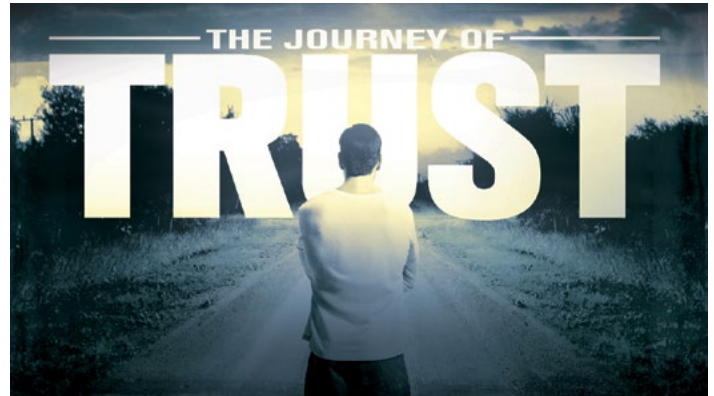


BEYOND THE WEEKEND

For the sermon on April 20-21, 2013
"The Father of Trust"



Welcome to *Beyond the Weekend!* The experiences below are designed to connect with the weekend message and fit a variety of learning styles. They provide additional readings from other sections of Scripture such as the Old Testament, Psalms, Gospels, and Epistles (letters). Take 20-30 minutes each day and enjoy your pursuit of God!



Prefer e-mail? ***Beyond the Weekend*** is also available via daily e-mails, which include links to the Scripture (both written and audio), the sermon video, and a weekly blog post. To sign up for the daily e-mails, go to adabile.org/btw.

Day 1 Genesis 12.1-9 | Trust In Leaving

God called Abram to leave his home, his family, and what was familiar to him and go to an unknown land, which God would later reveal. Think of that. God would later "reveal it." Consider changes in our lives, such as a job change to a new state: "Hey honey, I am thinking of leaving my job and going to a new land. Are you with me? Leave your family, friends, schools, and history behind. By the way, I don't know where it will be or what I will be doing." Imagine how well that would go.

Abram's journey represents one of the most heroic efforts of clinging to God's calling. Yet, it is not meant to be something we applaud from afar. God calls his people to do unique things in the eyes of this world, things that may seem extreme. However, if we look at life as a gift from his hand, then nothing he asks would be too extreme. God has always called his people to trust him in all things.

Today, read Genesis 12.1-9, and then check out the story of an Ada Bible Church family seeking to obey the call of God. Dave and Veronica Commire have agreed to follow God and help the people of Uganda. See their website, thewildcommires.com, and add them to your prayer list. If you know missionaries serving in other parts of the world, pray for them too. Ask God to help you see what he is calling you to leave, do, or pursue in order to follow him.

Day 2 Genesis 15.1-6 | Trust In Commitment

We understand the world of contracts in our day-to-day lives. We sign on the "dotted line" and enter into an agreement to pay a certain price by a certain date.

The world of the covenant is different and deeper. Abram entered into a covenant—not a contract—with God. A covenant is initiated by God, has God's character to back it, and stems from his vision for our lives. It is a relationship that God initiates with his people and is meant to be permanent. In fact, to ratify this covenant an animal (or several) would be cut in two to illustrate the severity of the bond (Genesis 15.7-21). Those who would break the covenant could anticipate a similar fate.

Today, read a psalm of trust, Psalm 62.1-8. Then, enjoy the wonderful worship song "Through It All" by Hillsong (search youtube.com). Embrace the fact that through Christ you have entered into a covenant, a marriage, with the Lord of the Universe.

Day 3 Genesis 22 | Trust In Waiting

Genesis 22 is the quintessential chapter on faith. God tested Abraham and instructed him, "Abraham!... Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you" (Genesis 22.1-2 ESV). Thankfully, God stopped Abraham before he sacrificed Isaac and provided a lamb to take his place. The passage famously proclaims: "God himself will provide the lamb" (v. 8).

God's great desire is for us to surrender our whole lives to his leadership, even as we wait for him to provide. It's a part of our daily worship—full surrender, as Abraham did, while we wait. Today, consider your waiting for God an aspect of your worship. Read Psalm 37.3-7 and seek to put on a heart of full surrender, knowing God has provided the Lamb of Christ as your substitute. Then, to cultivate a deeper habit of worship, consider joining us for a night of worship at The Gathering—April 28, 6:30 p.m. at the Knapp Street Campus.

BTW Blog

Ada Bible Church staff and leaders share how God is meeting them through the sermons. BTW blog posts are hosted on Sabea, our blog for spiritual formation, and go live on Wednesdays.

This week we hear from Felicia Betts, events, Cascade Campus.

adabible.org/sabea



Day 4 Hebrews 11 | Trust in Letting Go

The journey of trust can often be a lonely road. God calls us to follow him even if those around us aren't on the same path. The truth, though, is we are not alone. We have a deep history of men and women following God in profound ways. In fact, it is vital to a life of trust with God that we connect to this rich history of people who chose to follow God. We can be inspired to follow their example.

Today, read Hebrews 11 and consider your biblical roots. People all over the world have connected to this "cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12.1), people who have sacrificed, believed, followed, and persevered to fully follow the Lord's promptings. Are you open to following God as these people were? Is there anything you won't obey? Submit that to God in prayer in hopes of more fully trusting God's leadership over you.

Day 5 Matthew 4.18-22 | Trust in the Radical

Jesus' command to his disciples is simple, "Come, follow me" (Matthew 4.19). The results of that journey are not simple. They are actually quite radical. God says he will make us into people who desperately desire to help make other followers of God.

Abraham's is not the only radical story. "Follow me." This is the same radical call. Consider Jesus' teaching in Luke 14.26. Says Dietrich Bonhoeffer: "Because Jesus is the Christ, he has authority to call and to demand obedience to his word. Jesus calls to discipleship, not as a teacher or role model, but as the Christ, the Son of God" (*Discipleship*, p. 57). Make it your prayer to follow Jesus today, being attentive to his promptings. Follow him as your Lord, expecting him to ask something radical.

MORE

Book | *Radical: Taking Back Your Faith From The American Dream* by David Platt

Daily E-mail | Sign up for daily e-mails at adabible.org/btw.

Small Group Discussion | For a discussion guide related to the sermon, e-mail rcorlett@adabible.org.

Questions or Comments | Contact Tim Nelson, pastor of spiritual formation at tnelson@adabible.org.



ada bible church

868.7005 | adabible.org