

**AGAPE HOUSE OF WORSHIP - BIBLE STUDY**  
**Study Series: Abraham: Friend of God, Father of Faith**

**Part 1: Introduction to Abraham and His Journey of Faith**  
**Text: Genesis 11:26–12:9**

**Wednesday, August 13, 2025**  
**Teacher: Pastor Jide Lawore**

<b>Abraham: Friend of God, Father of Faith (15-Week Study)</b>			
8/13/2025	Part 1	Introduction to Abraham and his Journey of Faith	Genesis 11:26–12:9
8/20/2025	Part 2	Obedience and the First Steps of Faith	Genesis 12:10–13:4
8/27/2025	Part 3	Choices That Reveal the Heart	Genesis 13:5–18
9/3/2025	Part 4	The God Who Fights for Us	Genesis 14
9/10/2025	Part 5	The Covenant and Righteousness by Faith	Genesis 15
9/17/2025	Part 6	Impatience and the Birth of Ishmael	Genesis 16
9/24/2025	Part 7	A New Identity and the Covenant of Circumcision	Genesis 17
10/1/2025	Part 8	Friendship with God	Genesis 18
10/8/2025	Part 9	Judgment and Mercy	Genesis 19
10/15/2025	Part 10	Faith and Fear in the Face of Danger	Genesis 20
10/22/2025	Part 11	Fulfillment of the Promise	Genesis 21:1–21
10/29/2025	Part 12	Ultimate Test of Faith: The Sacrifice of Isaac	Genesis 22
11/5/2025	Part 13	The Legacy of Faith in Family	Genesis 23–24
11/12/2025	Part 14	Abraham's Final Years and Death	Genesis 25:1–11
11/19/2025	Part 15	Abraham in the New Testament: Our Spiritual Father	Romans 4; Galatians 3; Hebrews 11

### **I. Introduction: Abraham and the Journey of Faith**

When we talk about faith in the Bible, one name rises to the top! Abraham. He is called the father of faith (Romans 4:11) and the friend of God (James 2:23). Yet Abraham didn't start as a spiritual giant. He began as an ordinary man in an idolatrous culture, living in the ancient city of Ur, with no knowledge of the God of heaven. But one encounter with God changed everything.

God called Abraham to leave his country, people, and everything familiar, promising to make him into a great nation and bless the whole world through him. Abraham obeyed—often imperfectly, sometimes fearfully—but his life became a living testimony of what it means to trust God's promises even when they seem impossible.

In this study series, we'll walk alongside Abraham—through his highs and lows, his victories and failures—and discover how his journey mirrors ours. His story will show us that faith is not about having all the answers, but about taking God at His word and following Him step by step. Let's start with key attributes of Abraham:

1. **Faith in God's Promise** – He believed God's word even when it seemed impossible (Genesis 15:6; Romans 4:18-21).
2. **Obedience** – He left his homeland and followed God's direction without knowing the full destination (Genesis 12:1-4).
3. **Friendship with God** – He is called *the friend of God* due of his close, trusting relationship (James 2:23).
4. **Patience** – He waited 25 years for the promised son, enduring seasons of uncertainty (Hebrews 6:15).
5. **Hospitality** – He welcomed strangers generously, a reflection of God's heart (Gen. 18:1-8; Heb.13:2).
6. **Intercession** – He prayed passionately for others, such as for Lot and the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 18:16-33).
7. **Covenant Partner** – God established His covenant with Abraham, making him a model of covenant relationship (Genesis 17:1-8).

**Question 1:** Which of these attributes resonate with you the most and why?

### **II. Why is the Story of Abraham Significant to New Testament Believers?**

1. A Bridge to Christ - God's promise to bless all nations through Abraham pointed directly to Jesus Christ (Genesis 12:3; Matthew 1:1).
2. A Legacy of blessing - Through Jesus Christ we become part of the blessing of Abraham. Gal. 3:14-18
3. He is the first model of justification by faith – Abraham was counted righteous by faith, long before the Law, showing salvation has always been by faith (Romans 4:1-3; Galatians 3:6-9).

4. He is the model of faith and perseverance – His perseverance in waiting on God inspires us to trust God’s timing. Romans 4:16-21
5. He is the model of radical obedience – His willingness to sacrifice Isaac foreshadowed God’s own sacrifice of His Son (Genesis 22; Hebrews 11:17-19).
6. He is our spiritual father – All who believe in Christ are called Abraham’s offspring and heirs to God’s promises (Galatians 3:29).

### **III. Abraham’s Family Background (Genesis 11:26-32)**

*“This is the account of Terah’s family line. Terah became the father of Abram, Nahor and Haran. And Haran became the father of Lot. 28 While his father Terah was still alive, Haran died in Ur of the Chaldeans, in the land of his birth. 29 Abram and Nahor both married. The name of Abram’s wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor’s wife was Milkah; she was the daughter of Haran, the father of both Milkah and Iskah. 30 Now Sarai was childless because she was not able to conceive. 31 Terah took his son Abram, his grandson Lot son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, the wife of his son Abram, and together they set out from Ur of the Chaldeans to go to Canaan. But when they came to Harran, they settled there. 32 Terah lived 205 years, and he died in Harran.”*

Lessons from the account of Abraham’s family background:

- Abraham came from a real, traceable family line—he’s not a mythical figure.
- Abraham’s starting point was a pagan culture, not a “godly” environment—making his later faith in the one true God all the more remarkable. It also let us know his calling was a product of grace.
- Abraham’s initial journey was part of a family migration, reminding us that God often weaves his purposes through family lines and shared decisions.
- Abraham’s story begins in the context of loss, showing that faith journeys often start amid human pain. Haran, Abraham’s brother, died before the family left Ur.

**Question 2:** *What other lessons can we learn about Abraham from this account?*

### **IV. Abraham’s Call (Genesis 12:1-9)**

*“The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. 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. 6 Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. 7 The Lord appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built an altar there to the Lord, who had appeared to him. 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. 9 Then Abram set out and continued toward the Negev.”*

Lessons from Abraham’s calling:

- Following God often means stepping away from what’s known and comfortable in order to walk into what God has promised.
- God’s plans for our lives are not just for our benefit—they’re part of His greater plan to bless others.
- Faith is obeying God’s Word even when you can’t see the full picture.
- God told Abraham to leave his country, relatives, and father’s house, but he took Lot with him. This has led to discussion among biblical scholars about whether Abraham’s actions constituted disobedience.
- The first major encounter Abraham had was with God himself. The ultimate purpose of God’s calling is to know him and worship him.

**Question 3:** *Have you ever had to walk away from something familiar and comfortable in order to follow God?*