Biblical Literature I—Old Testament—Freshman Religion

Unit 2 “Abraham”

Lesson 1.3 “Abraham: Living By Faith”

Name: Hour:

Humanly speaking, God asked Abraham to believe the unreasonable and to do the impossible again and again. First, God placed before Abraham an almost impossible challenge. A quarter century later, God asked him to believe unreasonable promises. Then God gave him an impossible test. If Abraham had relied merely on his physical sight and his natural powers of reason, he would have told God each time: “That’s impossible. I can’t believe it. I can’t do it!” But his Spirit-made faith empowered him to believe and do everything God said.

**Click on the following link and see the struggle that Abram had when he heard God’s call.**

[**http://youtu.be/4S2D-Fjqng4**](http://youtu.be/4S2D-Fjqng4)

**Read** [**Genesis 12:1-4**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis%2012:1-4&version=NIV)

1. When Abraham was 75 years old,what did God tell him to do?

2. Why was this a difficult challenge?

3. Who goes with Abram?

**Read** [**Hebrews 11:8-9**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews%2011:8-9&version=NIV)

4. Hebrews 11, sometimes called the Hall of Faith, tells us what enabled Abraham to

obey God’s call. Why did he go, though he didn’t know where God was sending him?

5. Who along with Abraham were “heirs” of the promise?

6. Abraham, a nomad, lived in tents in the promised land of Canaan. He considered

himself a foreigner, a stranger. Acts 7:5 says, “[God] gave him [Abraham] no inheritance

here, not even a foot of ground.” Why did Abraham stay there?

**Read** [**Hebrews 11:10,13-16**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews%2011:10,%2013-16&version=NIV)

7. What was Abraham looking forward to?

8. The writer to the Hebrews explains that people like Abel, Noah, Enoch, and Abraham

did not live by sight but were “still living by faith when they died.” What does that mean?

9. What were Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all of the Old Testament saints “longing

for”?

10. Why was God “not ashamed to be called their God”?

**Then Read** [**Genesis 18:1-15**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis%2018:1-15&version=NIV)

11. Who visited Abraham a quarter century later?

12. What promise did God give Abraham?

13. What was Sarah doing during God’s discussion with Abraham and what was her

reaction?

14. What about Himself did the Lord remind Abraham and Sarah?

**Read** [**Hebrews 11:11-12**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews%2011:11-12&version=NIV)

15. Why was this promise so unbelievable?

16. **Look at the “Footnote” on verse 11.** What words show us that Abraham believed

this unbelievable promise?

17. God kept his promise and made Abraham both a physical father and a spiritual father

of many descendants. Explain.

**Read** [**Genesis 22:1-19**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis%2022:1-19&version=NIV)

18. The son of promise⎯Isaac, or “Laughter”⎯arrived the next year, as God had

promised. We can only imagine how happy Abraham and Sarah were. Years later, what

did God ask Abraham to do?

19. How long did the journey take to Mount Moriah?

20. What does verse 5 mean?

21. Isaac asks about the sacrificial lamb and what does Abraham tell him?

22. Abraham was willing to do this impossible thing for God, but what stopped him?

23. What was to be the result of Abraham’s willing obedience to God?

**Read** [**Hebrews 11:17-19**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews%2011:17-19&version=NIV)

24. What enabled Abraham to obey this difficult command?

25. How did Abraham think God would keep his promise of sending the Savior, even

while commanding Abraham to cut off the family line?

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