

STUDY NOTES

Vision 2020

A Series At New City Church

www.newcityphx.com/sermons

The following content is based on the message “The Radical and Personal Call of God” on 1/5/20 at New City Church in Phoenix, AZ. The following is not meant to be a full synopsis but rather a brief look at the main ideas. To use this study guide effectively, you must listen to the message found at <http://newcityphx.com/sermons/>.

Leaders using these study notes for group study and reflection should read the biblical text thoroughly before beginning, using this resource as assistance and not relying solely on this material for insight. We encourage all leaders to pray and ask the Spirit for revelation as they lead their respective community groups.

PRAYER

Pray and ask God to lead the discussion as everyone gets to share.

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 12:1-7

THE CALL OF GOD MUST BE PERSONAL

Joshua 24:2 tells us that Abram and his family did not worship God. They served other gods; yet, God called him anyway because He wanted a relationship with Abram. Without the call of God, Abram’s life was at a dead end. The same is true for us. God wants a relationship with each of us individually. He wants to breathe life into us by graciously calling us by name.

God is calling you personally.

- *What is the biggest thing in your life that keeps you from believing that God’s call is personally for you?*

THE CALL OF GOD IS PERSONALLY RADICAL

When God called Abram, He asked Abram to take everything and move to a new land. The call wasn’t an easy call. God wanted Abram’s complete trust. In fact, Hebrews 11:8 says that Abram started moving before he knew where he was going. So, we might not know where God is taking us, but He wants us to trust Him with our lives. God doesn’t want to fit into our agenda. He wants us to completely submit to Him by turning our agenda over to Him.

- *How are you challenged to follow Jesus after seeing that Abram got up and moved without fully knowing the plan?*

THE CALL OF GOD IS SACRIFICIALLY MISSIONAL

A part of Abram’s call was that he was commanded to bless others. God promised to bless Abram, but He commanded Abram to bless others with what he was given. This requires us to get out of our comfort zone and think about other people.

We should live to be a blessing.

- *What are some ways that God has blessed you?*
- *How can those blessings be used to bless others?*

THE CALL OF GOD IS PERSONAL TO YOU, BUT IT IS NOT ABOUT YOU

God promised that Abram’s family would grow to outnumber the stars. However, Abram never got to see the fulfillment of that promise. We see similar things all throughout Scripture. Moses never got to enter the Promised Land, David never got to build the temple, and Paul never got to go to Spain. God wants to personally have a relationship with each one of us, but He also wants us to see the bigger picture.

God’s plan is to redeem the whole world.

- *Why is it encouraging that God’s plans are bigger than just our individual lives?*
- *How is the Holy Spirit leading you to step out in faith and live to bless others in 2020?*
- *Pray with each other to have the courage to partner with what God wants to do in the world.*