

“Faith to Follow!”

Genesis 12:1

The Lord had said to Abram, “Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father’s family and go to the land that I will show you” (Genesis 12:1).

Did the Lord really tell him to “leave” everything and everybody behind? Yes, indeed He did! Can you imagine being told by God to pick up and leave all that you know about everything and everybody you’ve ever known? Being human, I can probably see doing that if God had provided him with detailed step-by-step instructions consisting of a map with directions to his new homeland and a multi-page brochure informing him of all the cultural sights in his new city; where the malls, schools, churches and all the home developments were located. I could see it if Abram knew the name and telephone number of the contact person who would meet and greet him upon his arrival. But no, Abram received none of that, all he heard was “get up, leave right now and I’ll show you where you’re going later!” As comical as it may sound, God can provide some of us with all of that and we still won’t budge! Why, because some of us are fearful and of little faith (Matthew 8:26). However, in the book of Genesis, we find Abram (later to be called Abraham) was full of faith that leads to obedience. It seems he was able to trust God even though He couldn’t trace God. In other words, Abram was willing to go, even if he had to take it one day and one step at a time. Ultimately his obedience was rewarded with great blessings that were promised by God. Abram’s name became well known and a great nation was comprised from his family, all because he had the faith to step out of his comfort zone and into his destiny.

Having heard God tell me to step out of my comfort zone, I am currently in the midst of a similar crossroad as Abram. I too have decided to obey God and leave it all; my job, my family, my church family, sell my house and relocate to another state. My decision to obey this call, at times, has been critically met with people expressing their mixed emotions about it all. Having recently lost my mother, some say I’m in the midst of my “grief cycle” therefore I’m really not thinking things through. Others have shared that they are both sad and mad (sad because I’m leaving and mad because they wish they could...LOL!).

When asked, “where are you going to live, where are you going to work, what church will you attend, just what do you plan to do?” Each time I respond, “I have no clue!” Wherever I end up, I know God will be there and that’s sufficient enough for me. All I know is there is a strong pull for me to move (an almost uncomfortable pull at times). I am trusting God in the “not knowing” because I have been assured that He is with me. I have this assurance because Jesus said, “And be sure of this: “I am with you always, even to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20). Even to the end of the age means in every moment for the rest of my life. There is a lot I do not know about the future, but just knowing this, encourages my faith to follow!

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