



Thru the Bible in 2012

The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the Word of our God endures forever. Isaiah 40:8

Ladies for Jesus Thursday Bible Study Lesson

Readings for March 1, 2012 – March 8, 2012

Class Discussion: Thursday, March 8, 2012

Experiencing God's Faithfulness

What is the secret to enjoying the Lord's best for your life? Whole-hearted obedience. Today we will look at our readings about the story of Abraham & explore the rewards of following God's voice and the consequences of disobedience. As we do so, we will reflect upon the other readings we have experienced this week.

When God asks us to obey, He doesn't always reveal the details.

(Read Genesis 12:1-3)

Where did the Lord tell Abraham to go?

What enabled him to take such a risk? (Hebrews 11:8-9)

"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

Hebrews 11:1 (NIV)

"And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

Hebrews 11:6

What did the Lord promise Abraham? (Genesis 12:2-3)

Has your heavenly Father ever asked you to do something that seemed illogical to you at the time? If so, what did your experience teach you?

God's guidance will not contradict His ways or His Word.

(Read Genesis 12:10-20.)

What did Abraham do instead of trusting the Lord to take care of him? (Genesis 12:13)

Although the patriarch did not have the Bible or even the Ten Commandments, he knew his action was wrong.

In what area of your life are you currently tempted to disobey God instead of trusting Him?

Explain your temptation.

What do you think God would have you do instead of trying to solve the problem using your own effort or reasoning?

When we disobey, other people suffer.

In Genesis 15:4, God promises Abraham a son, not just an heir. But years later, Sarah is still childless. What did she suggest to Abraham? (Genesis 16:2)

What were some of the negative consequences of his action? (Genesis 16:4-6; 11-12)

When you live for yourself instead of seeking to follow God, how are those around you negatively affected?

The Lord may ask us to surrender the dreams and plans He gives us.

(Read the story of the sacrifice of Isaac in Genesis 22:1-14.)

Why did God ask Abraham to sacrifice Isaac? (Genesis 22:12)

We can begin to value God-given possessions, relationships, dreams, or even ministry more than we treasure our relationship with Him. This is a form of idolatry.

What are the warning signs that a God-given gift has become too important?

Is God asking you to release an idol to Him so that He has your whole-hearted devotion? You may need to give it up literally or just surrender control of it in your heart. Write a prayer expressing your feelings and yielding to the lordship of Christ.