



new life fellowship

Sermon Title: **The Call of Abraham**  
Speaker: **Rich Villodas – Lead Pastor**  
Scriptures: **Genesis 12:1-4**

**The Call of Abram**

12 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.[a]

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.”[b]

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.

**Sermon Summary:**

Are we living as tourists in our faith, or as pilgrims on a purposeful path? This Sunday, we continue our Sunday School series with a study of the call of Abraham. Together, we’ll explore how Abraham’s journey challenges us to examine our own.

**Sermon Questions:**

1. Share your favorite destination that you have traveled to as a tourist and what you loved about it.

Eugene Peterson says that there are two biblical ways to describe followers of Jesus: pilgrim and disciple. A pilgrim is led by God into the unknown and is invited to trust. A tourist just wants to sightsee on his or her own terms. Spiritually speaking tourism is a dangerous thing. The journey Abraham goes on is a journey we all go on as pilgrims seeking to be obedient to God’s leading.

2. Abram and Sarai were unlikely candidates for God to use so significantly in their old age and barrenness. Barrenness is a metaphor for a person without life or hope. God knows how to work with barren people- he doesn’t wait for the circumstances to be perfect to invite us into his story. Describe a present or past situation of barrenness (hopelessness) in your life where you need or needed God’s intervention to see God still inviting you to be a part of his story in the world.
3. Pastor Rich shared three invitations that God gave to Abraham that are extended to us as well:
  - Leave - Abram was called to leave familiarity, security, and the source of his identity (v. 1)
  - Receive- God’s blessings on God’s terms. In order to receive, you have to leave
  - Believe- To what degree are we going to trust our lives to God

Which of these three invitations is most relevant to this season of your life and why? How do you sense God speaking to you through these invitations and this sermon?

4. We have to trust God on 3 levels: Outcome (the what), Process (the how), Timing (the when)

Share where you most need encouragement to trust God and on what level is it most challenging?

Take time to pray for one another for the strength and obedience to trust God with the outcome, process and timing.