



THE BIBLE LAB

YES, NO & MAYBE

02

1. The people sitting around me enjoy “living on the edge.”
2. I become quite irritable during transitional moments of *limbo*.
3. Abundance causes more problems in this world than scarcity does.
4. When God makes your purpose known, hold on, because things are about to move really fast.
5. God wants you to be frugal and strategic about how you give away the earthly wealth He has given you.

DIG DEEP

° In your experience, how difficult has it been to consistently believe that God has made you for a specific purpose? And what things cause you to begin to doubt your calling?

READ: Genesis 13:1-12

So Abram left Egypt and traveled north into the Negev, along with his wife and Lot and all that they owned. 2 (Abram was very rich in livestock, silver, and gold.) 3 From the Negev, they continued traveling by stages toward Bethel, and they pitched their tents between Bethel and Ai, where they had camped before. 4 This was the same place where Abram had built the altar, and there he worshiped the Lord again.

5 Lot, who was traveling with Abram, had also become very wealthy with flocks of sheep and goats, herds of cattle, and many tents. 6 But the land could not support both Abram and Lot with all their flocks and herds living so close together. 7 So disputes broke out between the herdsmen of Abram and Lot. (At that time Canaanites and Perizzites were also living in the land.)

8 Finally Abram said to Lot, “Let’s not allow this conflict to come between us or our herdsmen. After all, we are close relatives! 9 The whole countryside is open to you. Take your choice of any section of the land you want, and we will separate. If you want the land to the left, then I’ll take the land on the right. If you prefer the land on the right, then I’ll go to the left.”

10 Lot took a long look at the fertile plains of the Jordan Valley in the direction of Zoar. The whole area was well watered everywhere, like the garden of the Lord or the beautiful land of Egypt. (This was before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) 11 Lot chose for himself the whole Jordan Valley to the east of them. He went there with his flocks and servants and parted company with his uncle Abram. 12 So Abram settled in the land of Canaan, and Lot moved his tents to a place near Sodom and settled among the cities of the plain.

∞ Conflict Within the Promise:

» It is the matter of **abundance**, not **famine**, that causes a conflict within God’s promise. **Why do you think this is so?**

» Lot moves to the outer edge of the promised land. **How does this echo how we typically live within God’s promises to us?**

How
GOD
LEADS

DIG DEEP...CONTINUED

READ: Genesis 13:14-17 (NLT)

14 After Lot had gone, the Lord said to Abram, “Look as far as you can see in every direction—north and south, east and west. 15 I am giving all this land, as far as you can see, to you and your descendants as a permanent possession. 16 And I will give you so many descendants that, like the dust of the earth, they cannot be counted! 17 Go and walk through the land in every direction, for I am giving it to you.”

18 So Abram moved his camp to Hebron and settled near the oak grove belonging to Mamre. There he built another altar to the Lord.

∞ This is a very sad and disappointing time in Abram’s life. At this dark moment, saturated with the sense of loss, God speaks.

» Vs. 14 - **Look:** יָיָהּ עַיַּן וַיֵּלֶךְ [yissa enay wayar - to look up to lift (move); eye to look up; to see].

° These same three words are used in both verses 10 and 14. **What does it say about the character of God that he would: 1.) appear to Abram at this time; and 2.) use these same words?**

» Near **Bethel:** the highest point in central Israel [over 3000 feet above sea level].

» **Living in the “not yet”:** Once again, God tries to reassure Abram of his calling. God uses what Abram **can** see to reassure him of what he **can’t** see.

« **How do we also struggle with the unseen today?**

« **What does it say about the character of God that he patiently gives reminders and physical metaphors of our personal calling?**

‡ Abram’s magnanimous act of generosity mirrors the character of God. **How does God use this opportunity to teach about how you can never give away all of the wealth that God wants to give you?**

NOTES

TALK WITH GOD THIS WEEK ABOUT...

1. How am I focusing on my abundance instead of my promise?
2. In what areas of my life am I struggling with the unseen?
3. What do I see more clearly about the character of God this week?



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