

How To Respond To The Call Of God

Purpose: to learn from Abram 5 things that will help to get direction from God.

We are looking at how one person can make a difference in the lives of many. Our example is Abram, who obeying God. Here is a reminder of what God told Abram to do in Genesis 12:1 –

Command	Promise
Get out of your country	I will make you a great nation
From your family	I will make your name great; and you shall be a blessing
From your father's house	In you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.
To a land that I will show you	I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you

We are told that Abram departed as the LORD had spoken to him. But what did he do next? It is great to hear that God can do great things with one person, but how? What are the things that need to happen in order to fulfil the call of God in a person's life? How do we hear His voice on a day-to-day basis? We have in Abram one of the best examples of what it means to respond to God's call and to hear his voice.

What happened to Abram when he came to the land of Canaan?

[Gen 12:6](#) Abram passed through the land to the place of Shechem, as far as the terebinth tree of Moreh. And the Canaanites were then in the land.

[Gen 12:7](#) Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." And there he built an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

[Gen 12:8](#) And he moved from there to the mountain east of Bethel, and he pitched his tent with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; there he built an altar to the LORD and called on the name of the LORD.

[Gen 12:9](#) So Abram journeyed, going on still toward the South.

1. V. 6 - He went to Shechem
 - a. It was at the centre of the land of Canaan
 - b. V. 6 - He found a place to seek God. Terebinth Tree of Moreh – the oak of the teacher.
 - c. V, 6 - He saw the people in the land – the land was occupied! He quickly realised that this land that he was supposed to possess was already inhabited by someone else. Taking possession of it was not going to be easy.
2. V. 7 - God appeared to him. God had spoken to him twice, once in Ur and again in Haran, but here he **appears** at the Oak of the teacher. Perhaps the name came because God instructed him there.
 - a. God now makes a promise to him here – "To your descendant I will give this land." God gave him a well-driven nail

- b. [Ecc 12:11](#) *The words of the wise are like goads, and the words of scholars are like well-driven nails, given by one Shepherd.*
- 3. V. 8 - He built an altar and worshipped, the same way that Noah did after he came out of the ark.
- 4. V. 9 - He keeps moving – from there to Bethel, where he called on the name of the LORD, and then toward the south. Abram is looking for direction from God and moves as he is directed by God.
 - a. Two examples to consider:
 - i. Acts 16:6-10
 - ii. Ecclesiastes 11:1,2

What can we learn from Abram so far?

1. Begin to ***act on whatever God has told you*** and he will reveal to you what to do next. He will show you!
2. ***Don't focus on the difficulty of the task or the people around you.***
Focus on what God has clearly said that He would do.
3. ***Make worshipping and seeking God your first priority*** when you get where He sends you. Build an altar!
4. ***Ask God to confirm His will*** for you each step of the way. Look for a well-driven nail!
5. Keep moving! ***Keep seeking God's will wherever he takes you***, Call on Him and he will answer you.