

**INTRO**

How often did your family move while you were growing up?

Do you plan on staying in Toronto for the long haul or moving around?

Do you feel pressure to “express” your identity and individuality?

**READ**

Genesis 12:1-3

Galatians 3:29

Genesis 22:9-18

The first 11 chapters of Genesis covers 20+ generations and around 2,000 years. The next 14 chapters focus just on the life of Abraham. He is a key figure in the story of God.

**REFLECT**

Abraham was a man with faults and failures like all of us, yet in his life we see an incredible willingness to be used of God.

**1. Willing to wave.**

God called him to leave his family, safety and all things familiar. God did not even tell him where he was going.

*Qu: What are the challenges of leaving?*

**2. Willing to wander.**

The path to the land God had promised was in no means a direct one. Abraham endured famine, war, family strife and other trials, yet scripture never records anything about Abraham considering the idea of going back.

*Qu: Can you recall a time in your life where you felt you were wandering? Perhaps you are wandering now?*

**3. Willing to wait.**

Abraham was 75 when God called him to leave his home, 86 when his first son Ishmael was born through Hagar, 99 when he was circumcised, and 100 when his son Isaac was born through his wife Sarah.

*Qu: What are some hopes and dreams that you are waiting for now? How do you know they are promises from God?*

**4. Willing to not withhold.**

Abraham’s faith grew over his lifetime. When God asked him to sacrifice his son, Abraham was willing. The hardest things to sacrifice are good things, especially things that God has given us.

*Qu: How can we come to the point like Abraham of being able to put everything on the altar?*

*Qu: What would a life fully devoted to God look like?*

**RESPOND**

God stopped Abraham from sacrificing Isaac, but God followed through on sacrificing his only son, the Lord Jesus.

*Qu: How does reflecting on that great sacrifice help us in following God more fully?*

**PRAY**

- Pray for one another that we might have the Spirit’s empowering to follow through on what God is showing us.
- Pray that our lives may be like Abraham’s – blessed to be a blessing.
- Pray for one another for any needs in our lives or challenges we may be facing.