

- **Intro: tone = positive (assume doing)**
 - **Abraham very important** character in God's plan for our **salvation**
 - **the gospel was preached** "beforehand to Abraham, saying, 'All the nations will be blessed in you.'" (Gal. 3:8)
 - **father of all** who live by faith: Jew and Gentile (Gal. 3:9)
 - **lesson:** Lessons From an Affluent Wanderer – **Abraham (Gen. 20:13)** "God caused me to wander from my father's house"
- **Abraham believed God, even when it didn't make sense – we must do the same (faith)**
 - **Rom. 4:18-22** Abraham believed when it was humanly hopeless – **not make sense** – Sarah, baby at 90
 - **illus.:** tell 90 year old lady she was going to have baby, laugh (Sarah), body not able to reproduce
 - Abraham believed anyway, although impossible with man, **righteous – Heb. 11:11-12**
- **- application:**
 - **"faith" is believing and obeying God, even when it doesn't make sense to us** – baby at 100/99
 - **Col. 3:17** do all in name of the Lord – not just what seems logical
 - **Pr. 16:25** way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death
 - **illus.:** driving car, wrong direction, thinking right, won't get there
- **- illus. baptism to be saved:**
 - **1 Pet. 3:21** baptism now saves you, appeal to God for good conscious – **world, nonsense**
 - **Col. 2:11-12, 13** **faith** in working of God **is the difference**
- **Abraham "went" where God commanded, even when it didn't make sense – we must do the same**
 - **Heb. 11:8** Abraham left home, not know where going – **faith, obey**
- **- map:** Ur, Haran, Canaan
- **- map:** famine in Canaan so went to Egypt, returned to Canaan
- **- Heb. 11:9** lived in tents as a sojourner, wanderer, alien, foreign land – **faith, obey**
 - **very different life from UR** that was a prosperous, industrial, commercial, and agricultural center with a population of about 360,000
 - **Abraham in Ur was probably an upper class family member in a reasonable spacious permanent home in town, well educated, accustomed to the comforts city life, some suggest he was a merchant prince,** powerful enough to command his own army and equal to Canaanite kings whom he later interacted with in Canaan
 - **leaving home and becoming wanderer was a great sacrifice, in human terms**, though he was still a powerful and rich man until death
- **2 - pics. illus.:** powerful rich man who lived in NY move to jungle – still rich, but much different
- **- application:**
 - **like Abraham, we must leave the world of sin, not knowing exactly where going, confident God take care of us – heaven in the end**
 - **Heb. 13:13-14** we must go outside the camp, to be with Jesus and go to heaven
 - **2 Cor. 6:17** we must come out of the world and be separate, although live in the world
 - **illus.:** song, #498, Where He Leads I'll Follow
- **- like Abraham, we must live as sojourners, wanders, aliens in this life – heaven our home**
 - **Phil. 3:20** citizenship is in heaven, eagerly wait for Christ's return
 - **Heb. 11:10** looking for the city, whose architect and builder is God – **heaven**
 - **illus.:** song, #230, This World Is Not My Home, I'm just passing through

- **Abraham “did” what God commanded, even when it didn’t make sense** – we must do the same (faith)
 - **Ja. 2:21-24** Abraham offered Isaac – **tell story, righteousness, friend of God – faith, obey**
- - **Heb. 11:17-19** Abraham’s thinking – **not understand, knew God would work out, obeyed**
 - **illus.: teaching girls to drive**, give a command to **test** them, to see if they’ll immediately do what I command, before I risk my life with them driving in traffic – **God’s commands are a test**
- - **application:**
 - **“faith” is doing what God commands**, even when it doesn’t makes sense to us
 - **God does not ask us to sacrifice our children, but He asks us to sacrifice ourselves** in service to Him
 - **Rom. 12:1-2** present body and living and holy sacrifice to God
 - **Col. 3:5** consider members of earthly body dead
 - **Jesus:** deny self, take up cross daily, follow me
 - **Paul:** I die daily / it’s no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me
- **Abraham proves that rich people can be saved** – we are richer than Abraham in many respects
 - **Gen. 20:13** Abraham affluent wanderer – **rich people can go to heaven – us**
- - **Mk. 10:23-27** hard for rich to enter kingdom – easier for camel to go through eye of needle
 - **illus.: Mk. 10:17-22** rich young ruler, hard to love **God more than riches**
- - **application:**
 - **young people:** you may be the wealthiest generation to live upon earth – be careful, alert
 - **you can do it, but it won’t be easy**
 - **Jesus: more given, more required** – Are you using your wealth for good?
 - **illus.: Philemon**, free a slave to minister to Paul
 - **1 Tim. 6:17-19** warning, admonition, instruction – **Are you doing this?**
- **Summary / Inv.**
 - **review / admonitions:**
 - **believe and obey**, even if it doesn’t make sense
 - **go** where God commands
 - **do** what God commands
 - **be on alert for sins associated with wealth** – know, it’s going to be harder for you than the poor
 - **inv.**
 - **song, #334**, Where He Leads Me