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## **2021 Step At A Time – Hebrews 11:8-10**

**James 2:23** And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.” And he was called the friend of God.

**2 Chronicles 20:7** Are You not our God, who drove out the inhabitants of this land before Your people Israel, and gave it to the descendants of Abraham Your friend forever?

**Isaiah 41:8** “But you, Israel, are My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the descendants of Abraham, My friend.”

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### **The Context**

- *“The word Chaldea means “demonic”; Ur means “flame”. Ur was an ancient city-state in Mesopotamia (modern day Iraq), which was approximately 50 miles south of Babylon. Ur was perhaps one of the largest cities of the world. It is clear that Abram and his father served foreign gods. Ur was named after the moon goddess and was her center of worship. The Chaldeans were astrologers, occultists, and idol worshippers . Ancient traditions state that Terah was an idol-maker until his death.” TPT Commentary*

### **The Encounter**

- *“The God of Glory appeared to Abram and spoke with him. God’s appearance to Abram was sudden and without warning. The same voice of creation now proclaims a message of hope and blessing to all the world. Abram had no burning bush to inspire him, no tablets of stone to guide him, and no ark of the covenant as a centerpiece of worship. Neither did Abram have a temple to worship in, a Bible to read, nor a priest to counsel him. Nor did Abram have a pastor to pray for him, nor a prophet to prophesy to him. But Abram had a divine encounter.” TPT Commentary*

### **The Promise - Genesis 12:1-3**

#### **Faith:**

- It isn’t punitive
- It’s not just for practice
- It’s not performance based
- There is a purpose
- Always attached to blessing and promise

1st step...Separation

1st promise...A land

2nd promise...Making Abram a great nation

3rd promise...Blessing

**Genesis 24:1** Now Abraham was old, well advanced in age; and the Lord had blessed Abraham in all things.

4th Promise...Renown

5th Promise...Abram will bless others

6th Promise...Blessing and cursing

7th Promise...All families of the earth blessed

**Romans 4:13** For the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.

**Romans 4:16** Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all

**Galatians 3:16** Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ.

**Galatians 3:29** And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

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➤ **2 Timothy 2:13** If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.

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### Bobservations:

- He never asks us to do something He knows we cannot do
  - He never asks us to do anything apart from Him
  - He never asks us to do anything that He hasn't already experienced
  - He never expects perfect faith
  - He is ALWAYS faithful
  - He calls, guides and leads us through encounters with Him
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➤ *"Abraham is called 'the father of faith'; true faith was exemplified through his life. In the life of this 'friend of God', faith is not defined as perfect character or behavior, but simply believing what God says. Abraham's life also demonstrates how we may grow in believing God and encourages us to persist though we may grow slowly or not see our faith's immediate fulfillment."* New Spirit Filled Life Bible Commentary