



HOPECHAPEL

Guest Speaker: Dr. Clayton D. Robinson

**Message Summary:** Abraham was called by God to a lifetime of journeying by faith. Along the route Abraham fell short, but God always met Abraham and restored him. God challenges us to see His greatness by looking to the heavens which He created. God invites us to see what He sees and to take hold of the impossible by faith. Regardless of what we see in the natural world, ask God to see from *His* perspective and step out by faith to claim His promises over our lives.

## **How Big Is *YOUR* God? The Life of Abraham: *Genesis 12–13***

**If God created the heavens with the span of his hand (Isa 40:12–12)...how big is God?**

### **I. God's greatness is seen in the life of Abraham**

#### **A. Abraham's Call (Gen 12:1)**

1. Leave behind the past
2. Look to the future

#### **B. Abraham's Promise (Gen 12:2–4)**

1. You will have children (fruitfulness)
2. I will protect you (protection)
3. I will provide for you (provision)

#### **C. Abraham's failure (Gen 12:10–13)**

**"I might starve... God cannot provide for me"**

**"I might die... God cannot protect me"**

**"I'll never have children (so take my wife)...God cannot make me fruitful"**

#### **1. Principles to remember:**

- a) God is faithful in spite of our failures
- b) The seeds of our future problems reside in our present failures

#### **D. Abraham's Restoration (Gen 13:1–4)**

1. When you drift away from God, go back to where you met God previously and call on him afresh.

#### **E. The Promise Restated (Gen 15:1–6)**

**\* Look to the heavens...**

- 1. Learn to see what God sees and not just what you can see!**
- 2. Our future does not depend on what we can see or have faith for, but on the vast resources of our God.**

**II. What is looming too large in your world?**

- A. Sarah laughed at the idea she could have a child at 90, yet God responds, “Is anything too hard for the Lord? (Gen 18:14)**
- B. What do you need to take ahold of by faith? What provision, or healing, or need do you have?**
- C. Look past your doubts & fears and claim your promises.**

**III. See what God sees! (Ps 8:3–4; Isa 55:8–11; Eph 3:20–21)**

## **LifeGroup Questions:**

BEGIN IT (5min) – Time spent in praise and prayer for God to lead the study.

OPEN IT (10min) – If you knew God would absolutely answer your prayer, what would you ask for? Why?

EXPLORE IT (60min) – Read Gen 12:1–4; 13:14–17 and review Sunday’s sermon outline along with your personal notes and discuss your questions as a group. Now answer the following questions:

1. Of God’s three promises (fruitfulness, protection, provision), what is most needed today? What are we most likely to doubt?
2. God challenges us to “look to the heavens,” to see from his perspective rather than ours. Where do we most need “divine vision” in today’s world?
3. Abraham often went his own way rather than carefully following God’s direction. Where do we compromise God’s directions?
4. What truth did God show you during the message?

APPLY IT (15min) – The message challenged us to take hold of God’s promises. Where were you challenged to take a step of faith? How can we pray with you for a break-through?