



# UPGRADE

A TEACHING SERIES AT JOURNEY

## “Faith Upgrade”

**UPGRADE:** an occurrence in which one thing is replaced by something better, newer, more valuable, etc.

### **ABRAM (ABRAHAM) GETS AN UPGRADE.**

<sup>1</sup> The Lord had said to Abram, “Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father’s family, and go to the land that I will show you.” <sup>2</sup> I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you and curse those who treat you with contempt. All the families on earth will be blessed through you.” <sup>4</sup> So Abram departed as the Lord had instructed, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran. <sup>5</sup> He took his wife, Sarai, his nephew Lot, and all his wealth—his livestock and all the people he had taken into his household at Haran—and headed for the land of Canaan... **Genesis 12:1-5 NLT**

- **Abram trusted God.**
- **Abram trusted God enough to obey.**
- **God blesses faith.**
- **Abram was about the Kingdom of God.**

<sup>8</sup> It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup> And even when he reached the land God promised him, he lived there by faith—for he was like a foreigner, living in tents. And so did Isaac and Jacob, who inherited the same promise. <sup>10</sup> Abraham was confidently looking forward to a city with eternal foundations, a city designed and built by God. **Hebrews 11:8-10 NLT**

### **GOD CHANGES ABRAM’S NAME AND BLESSES HIM.**

<sup>1</sup> When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, “I am El-Shaddai—‘God Almighty.’ Serve me faithfully and live a blameless life. <sup>2</sup> I will make a covenant with you, by which I will guarantee to give you countless descendants.” <sup>3</sup> At this, Abram fell face down on the ground. Then God said to him, <sup>4</sup> “This is my covenant with you: I will make you the father of

a multitude of nations!<sup>5</sup> What’s more, I am changing your name. It will no longer be Abram. Instead, you will be called Abraham, for you will be the father of many nations. <sup>6</sup> I will make you extremely fruitful. Your descendants will become many nations, and kings will be among them! <sup>7</sup> “I will confirm my covenant with you and your descendants after you, from generation to generation. This is the everlasting covenant: I will always be your God and the God of your descendants after you. <sup>8</sup> And I will give the entire land of Canaan, where you now live as a foreigner, to you and your descendants. It will be their possession forever, and I will be their God.”

**Genesis 17:1-8 NLT**

- **God made Abraham a promise and He always keeps His promises.**
- **God blessed Abraham because of his faith.**
- **Abraham knew God was able to deliver.**

<sup>13</sup> Clearly, God’s promise to give the whole earth to Abraham and his descendants was based not on his obedience to God’s law, but on a right relationship with God that comes by faith. <sup>14</sup> If God’s promise is only for those who obey the law, then faith is not necessary and the promise is pointless. <sup>15</sup> For the law always brings punishment on those who try to obey it. (The only way to avoid breaking the law is to have no law to break!) <sup>16</sup> So the promise is received by faith. It is given as a free gift. And we are all certain to receive it, whether or not we live according to the law of Moses, if we have faith like Abraham’s. For Abraham is the father of all who believe.

**Romans 4:13-16 NLT**

<sup>5</sup> I ask you again, does God give you the Holy Spirit and work miracles among you because you obey the law? Of course not! It is because you believe the message you heard about Christ. <sup>6</sup> In the same way, “Abraham believed God, and God counted him as righteous because of his faith.” <sup>7</sup> The real children of Abraham, then, are those who put their faith in God. <sup>8</sup> What’s more, the Scriptures looked forward to this time when God would make the Gentiles right in his sight because of their faith. God proclaimed this good news to Abraham long ago when he said, “All nations will be blessed through you.” <sup>9</sup> So all who put their faith in Christ share the same blessing Abraham received because of his faith. **Galatians 3:5-9 NLT**

- **Trusting God’s gift is an upgrade over trying to earn salvation.**
- **Trusting God is an upgrade over trusting ourselves.**
- **Trusting God is the key.**

### **Next Steps for Me Today...**

- **I will put my trust in God and His promise.**
- **I will live by faith and trust God’s Word.**
- **I will trust God enough to obey.**