



# STUDY QUESTIONS FOR **NOVEMBER 30**

**Series: *Where We All Began***

*Promises Begin (Genesis 11:10–12:3)*

## **Icebreakers!**

1. What's the last promise you made to someone? What's the last thing someone promised you?
2. When was the last time you wondered how on earth something was going to get done? Did it get done, or is it still in progress?

## **Digging Deeper**

3. **Study Genesis 11:10–12:3 on the back of this page.** What was good about Shem? What hardships came to Terah's family? What makes God's promises to Abram so great?
4. **Read Deuteronomy 7:6-10.** What did God choose this people to be? Why did God say He chose them? Why does God stress His own faithfulness to His covenant?
5. **Read Acts 7:1-3.** Who is Stephen speaking to? What makes Abraham so important to the Jewish people? How did Stephen establish his credibility with this story?
6. **Read Romans 1:16-17.** "The righteousness of God is revealed ..." – how does your version translate the next phrase about faith?<sup>1</sup> What does it mean?
7. **Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-31.** Where did Abram rank in wisdom, power, and nobility? Why does God choose people of low rank? Who *ought* we to boast in?
8. **Read Hebrews 11:8-10.** What two things did Abraham do *by faith*? What city was this sojourner looking forward to? What has God promised us for you to look forward to?
9. What did you hear in the message this Sunday that stood out to you? Is there anything you would emphasize, add, or change?

## **Application**

10. Why do people "self-select" away from God, imagining that God wouldn't want them? How does God's call of Abram keep our hopes alive, for ourselves *and* for others?
11. What does living by faith look like in your daily life? How can the everyday moments of your life, your attitudes and inclinations, be rooted in your trust in God?

---

<sup>1</sup> ESV "from faith for faith"; NIV "by faith from first to last"; NLT "from start to finish by faith"; NASB, HCSB, NET, KJV "from faith to faith"; Greek ἐκ πίστεως εἰς πίστιν

## GENESIS 11:10–12:3

These are the generations of Shem.

When Shem was 100 years old, he fathered Arpachshad two years after the flood. And Shem lived after he fathered Arpachshad 500 years and had other sons and daughters.

When Arpachshad had lived 35 years, he fathered Shelah. And Arpachshad lived after he fathered Shelah 403 years and had other sons and daughters.

When Shelah had lived 30 years, he fathered Eber. And Shelah lived after he fathered Eber 403 years and had other sons and daughters.

When Eber had lived 34 years, he fathered Peleg. And Eber lived after he fathered Peleg 430 years and had other sons and daughters.

When Peleg had lived 30 years, he fathered Reu. And Peleg lived after he fathered Reu 209 years and had other sons and daughters.

When Reu had lived 32 years, he fathered Serug. And Reu lived after he fathered Serug 207 years and had other sons and daughters.

When Serug had lived 30 years, he fathered Nahor. And Serug lived after he fathered Nahor 200 years and had other sons and daughters.

When Nahor had lived 29 years, he fathered Terah. And Nahor lived after he fathered Terah 119 years and had other sons and daughters.

When Terah had lived 70 years, he fathered Abram, Nahor, and Haran.

Now these are the generations of Terah.

Terah fathered Abram, Nahor, and Haran; and Haran fathered Lot. Haran died in the presence of his father Terah in the land of his kindred, in Ur of the Chaldeans. And Abram and Nahor took wives. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife, Milcah, the daughter of Haran the father of Milcah and Iscah. Now Sarai was barren; she had no child.

Terah took Abram his son and Lot the son of Haran, his grandson, and Sarai his daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife, and they went forth together from Ur of the Chaldeans to go into the land of Canaan, but when they came to Haran, they settled there. The days of Terah were 205 years, and Terah died in Haran.

Now the LORD said to Abram,

**“Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you.**

**And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.**

**I will bless** those who bless you,

and him who dishonors you **I will curse,**

and **in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”**