

Dilemmas and Decisions

BY TERRI BENTLEY

Most of us change homes multiple times in our lives. We start with our first move from our parents' houses, whether we are going to college, getting married, or starting our first career. Then there may be a transfer to another town, a need for a bigger home, downsizing as empty nesters, or the addition of a vacation home in our future.



Whatever the case, moves are always a bit frantic.

These dilemmas are not new. We are not the first ones to have to pack and move into the unknown. Read about Abram's move in **Genesis 12:1-9**. Can you imagine leaving your home and not even having an exact destination in mind? _____

Where does the Lord tell Abram he is going in verse 1? _____

God promises Abram that he will be blessed. In fact, He stresses that to Abram multiple times. How many times is a form of the word "bless" used in verses 2 and 3? _____

What was the blessing? _____

See **Luke 1:73-79**. What blessing is promised here? _____

If you have experienced a stressful move, how many people did you move? How many people do you think Abram was moving (verses 4-5)? Remember all their possessions that they had gathered would include servants, laborers, children, and possibly relatives other than the named Lot. Without modern conveniences, this would be quite an undertaking.

Abram stops at the oak of Moreh in verse 6-7. In Hebrew, *Moreh* means *teacher*. What happens there? _____

When we are in the middle of a tremendous undertaking, do we stop to listen to God and worship Him? How might that change things? _____

Abram continues on to the hill country east of Bethel (verse 8) and builds another altar. *Bethel* means *house of God*. Later, who else encounters God at Bethel? See **Genesis 28:18-22**. _____

What is his promise to God? _____

Abraham traveled most of his life and, actually, never owned any of the land on which he lived. He knew his final resting place was in heaven, and he was only passing through this world. Abraham's life journey has lessons for us today. When we are too busy with

our hectic itineraries to spend time with God, what should we do? Read the following:

Acts 17:26-28 _____

Proverbs 15:22-25 _____

Colossians 3:2 _____

Hebrews 11:8-11 _____

It does not help to worry over the dilemmas that are thrown our way. Trusting in the Lord, rather than relying on our own understanding, is only possible with the Lord. Have faith, seek wise counsel, and move forward with the plans the Lord has made for you.

Read **Psalms 20:4-7**. *Shout for joy over your salvation ... (as you) trust in the name of the Lord our God.*

Closing Prayer: Lord, sometimes I feel like I am traveling in circles, with no Global Positioning System to point the way. Help me seek Your way for my life, Lord, so that my destination is always in the arms of Jesus. In His name, I pray. Amen.