



A Love That Transforms

Our first impression of Father God and how He loves us comes from our biological Father. Today, we look at how to transition from your bio-dad's love to Father God's Love.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Psalms 139:14 NIV

God created you with Awesome Reverence

...because you are precious to me.

You are honored, and I love you. **Isaiah 43:4b**

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

Ephesians 2:10

How precious are your thoughts about me, O God.

They cannot be numbered! **Psalm 139:17**

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. **1 John 3:1 NIV**

Abraham (formally Abram), Son of Terah
His story can be found in Genesis 11 to 25

One day Terah took his son Abram, his daughter-in-law Sarai (his son Abram's wife), and his grandson Lot (his son Haran's child) and moved away from Ur of the Chaldeans. He was **headed for the land of Canaan**, but they **stopped at Haran** and settled there.

³²Terah lived for 205 years and died while still in Haran.

Genesis 11:31-32

Abrahams father Terah set out for Cannan (the promised land, the land of God's blessing, modern day Jerusalem) and settled in Haran, the land of decisions (crossroads, mountains). Terah did not receive the blessing that was in Cannan or become the father of many nations. Abraham is left in Haran when God calls him to continue the journey his father Terah started.

Abraham Obeys God

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." **Genesis 12:1**

Abraham's obedience aligns him and us, for God's blessing.

Some time later, God tested Abraham's faith. "Abraham!" God called. "Yes," he replied. "Here I am."

² “Take your son, your only son—yes, Isaac, whom you love so much—and go to the land of Moriah. Go and sacrifice him as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will show you.”

Genesis 22:1-2

“Stay here with the donkey,” Abraham told the servants. “The boy and I will travel a little farther. We will worship there, and **then we will come right back.**” **Genesis 22:5**

Abraham believed God, even if God had to raise Issac from the dead to do it.

Abraham reasoned that if Isaac died, God was able to bring him back to life again. **Hebrews 11:19**

And Abraham picked up the knife to kill his son as a sacrifice. ¹¹ At that moment the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!”

“Yes,” Abraham replied. “Here I am!”

¹² “Don’t lay a hand on the boy!” the angel said. “Do not hurt him in any way, for **now I know that you truly fear God.** You have not withheld from me even your son, your only son.”

Genesis 22:10-12

To be Blessed by God we must Believe God.

And Abram believed the Lord, and the Lord counted him as righteous because of his faith.

⁷ Then the Lord told him, “I am the Lord who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as your possession.”

Genesis 15:6-7

The Big Idea:

Abraham, the father of our faith, transitioned from his father Terah's love to Father God's love, by believing God and doing what God asked him to do.

My Next Steps:

- Sign Up for a Connect Group Today!
- Come Back for Beyond the Budget Sunday March 1st!

Tithe and Offering

Melchizedek blessed Abram with this blessing: "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth.²⁰ And blessed be God Most High, who has defeated your enemies for you."

Then Abram gave Melchizedek a tenth (*tithe*) of all the goods he had recovered. **Genesis 14 19-20**

When God defeated Abrahams enemies, Abraham tithed to honor God. Has God defeated our enemies through salvation; therefore, we should honor God with the tithe.

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