

## Genesis 12:1

*Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you."*

When you read the bible, you soon discover that God told great men to leave their comfort zone so that He could bless them with greater things.

In today's verse, God told Abram (Abraham) to leave his family, his home, and his friends to go to a land that he never had been before.

Noah built an ark for one hundred years and left his job.

† **Genesis 6:22** *Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did.*

Moses left all the comforts of Egypt, where he was a part of Pharaoh's household, and could have had it made on easy street if he didn't leave it.

† **Hebrews 11:24-26 (NLT2)** *It was by faith that Moses, when he grew up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to share the oppression of God's people instead of enjoying the fleeting pleasures of sin. He thought it was better to suffer for the sake of Christ than to own the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking ahead to his great reward.*

Esther left the comfort zone of being the queen in the palace in order to save her people (the Jews).

† **Esther 4:16** *"Go, gather all the Jews who are present in Shushan, and fast for me; neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will fast likewise. And so I will go to the king, which is against the law; and if I perish, I perish!"*

Saul left the comfort of his religion and his high status in that religion and became Paul who was later persecuted by the very religion that he thought was so great.

† **Acts 22:19-21** *So I said, 'Lord, they know that in every synagogue I imprisoned and beat those who believe on You. And when the blood of Your martyr Stephen was shed, I also was standing by consenting to his death, and guarding the clothes of those who were killing him.' Then He said to me, 'Depart, for I will send you far from here to the Gentiles.' "*

Jesus left Heaven!

† **John 6:38** *For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.*

So, what were the results of them leaving their comfort zone?

Abram became Abraham and was blessed by God to be the father of many nations and from who's lineage Jesus came from.

† **Genesis 17:4-5** *As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations.*

Noah saved his family from the wrath of God against the entire world.

† **2 Peter 2:5** *and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly.*

Moses was blessed as a man who would be able to speak directly with God and hear His voice, just like friends would talk together face to face.

† **Exodus 33:11a** *So the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.*

God used Queen Esther to deliver His people from total annihilation.

† **Esther 9:1** *Now in the twelfth month, that is, the month of Adar, on the thirteenth day, the time came for the king's command and his decree to be executed. On the day that the enemies of the Jews had hoped to overpower them, the opposite occurred, in that the Jews themselves overpowered those who hated them.*

Paul (Saul) became a mighty man of the Word of God and wrote almost half of the New Testament.

† **Acts 9:22** *But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who dwelt in Damascus, proving that this Jesus is the Christ.*

And Jesus saved us from all our sins and ascended to heaven and became the true King of kings and Lord of lords, sitting at the right hand of God.

† **Revelation 19:16** *And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.*

† **Romans 8:34 (NLT2)** *Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God's right hand, pleading for us.*

So, what comfort zone is the Lord calling you out of, or what blessings are you giving up because you would rather stay in that comfort zone?

- † **Genesis 15:1** *After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward."*
- † **Hebrews 11:6** *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.*