

Genesis 12:10

Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to dwell there, for the famine was severe in the land.

Did you know that God never told Abram (Abraham) to go to Egypt?

Abram was a normal guy and lived life as normal just like we do today. Yet we read of these men and women of God in the bible, and we think that they could walk on water and were perfect and could do no wrong and every moment and every decision that they made they spent hours in prayer seeking God. Yet the truth is once again, Abram and all other people in the bible were normal people and lived regular, normal lives just like we do today.

Also think about Abram, who was renamed by God as Abraham. How long did he live and walk this earth? If you said One hundred and seventy-five years (175), you are correct.

† **Genesis 25:7** *This is the sum of the years of Abraham's life which he lived: one hundred and seventy-five years.*

For those 175 years, there only 14 chapters in Genesis (chapters 11–25) that talk about Abraham, and it only mentions a handful of events in his life. But what about the rest of the time, what did Abraham do? Was he sitting in a lotus position meditating, or spending every waking hour in prayer, or reading the scriptures (Which would be chapter 1-10 of Genesis lol). No, Abraham lived like everyone else. He had a job, a family that he had to take care of and provide for, plus flocks of animals and buying and trading and getting a cold, or having a headache, dealing with kids growing up and on and on. Simply all men and woman of the bible were normal people just like you and me (Except for Jesus who was perfect).

I like the way James puts this thought: “*Elijah was a man with a nature like ours.*” **James 5:17a**

Yeah, Elijah was just like you and me and was imperfect just like you and me, yet God used him. But not all the time, because just like Abraham, Elijah had a job and a regular life too.

Yet we get upset because the Lord is not using us constantly, and some even think that God is mad at them, or they are a failure because they are not doing “spiritual” things every waking moment.

I listen to worship music and teachings throughout the day while I am working, but I don't sit here all day working on devotionals or bible studies, because I have a wife and family I need to take care of, so I work a regular job and do normal things.

So, remember my first thought of “*God never told Abram to go to Egypt.*” Well, if you think about it, because Abram did go to Egypt, what was the results of that?

† **Genesis 16:1-2** *Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. And she had an Egyptian maidservant whose name was Hagar. So Sarai said to Abram, "See now, the LORD has restrained me from bearing children. Please, go in to my maid; perhaps I shall obtain children by her." And Abram heeded the voice of Sarai.*

And we know because of that decision, that there has been conflict in Israel. But if Abram never went to Egypt, would this still have happened? I don't know, but really the thought is that even Abram, who was a Godly man, still didn't always make the right decisions, and you will read the same thing of other men and women in the bible. So, if you make wrong decisions in life (and we all have many times), don't let those wrong past decisions beat you up. Simply learn from them and realize you are in good company, because everyone in the bible (Except Jesus) made bad or wrong decisions, and God still used them, just like He wants to use you. Just don't sit there twiddling your thumbs waiting for God to use you, until then, just live life like everyone else and enjoy it. And when the Lord does use you, rejoice in that as well.

† **Psalm 27:14** *Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the LORD!*

† **1 Chronicles 28:20** *And David said to his son Solomon, "Be strong and of good courage, and do it; do not fear nor be dismayed, for the LORD God--my God--will be with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you, until you have finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.*

† **1 Corinthians 15:58 (NLT2)** *So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless.*

† **Colossians 3:23 (NLT2)** *Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people.*