

WILD GOOSE CHASE

Goose Bumps • March 13/14, 2010

ICEBREAKER:

Take some time to get to know each other with some open sharing:

- Right now I'm feeling...
- Describe a Wild Goose chase you have experienced with God.
- "There are two kinds of people: those who say to God, 'Thy will be done,' and those to whom God says, 'All right then, have it your way.'" Discuss the meaning of this quote from C.S. Lewis.

INTRODUCTION:

In Genesis 12, God called Abraham to leave his homeland and go to an unknown land and become a great nation. Read the story in Gen. 12:1-9. As a group, brainstorm as many observations about Abe's faith, obedience, and journey with God from these verses.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Define self-reliance. How are we self-reliant?
2. How did Abraham (and Sarah) demonstrate self-reliance rather than God-reliance? Gen. 12:10-13; 16:1-5; Gen. 20:1-3
3. How is self-reliance a slippery slope? Does it affect others?
4. Abraham went down to Egypt and later went up from Egypt to the Promised Land, signifying self-reliance to God-reliance. (Gen. 13:1,3-4) What did Abraham do to make this shift to God-reliance?
5. When Abraham returned, God reminded him of His promise. Read Genesis 15:1-6. Why did God take Abraham outside and tell him to look up in the sky?

6. What is your biggest problem right now? How does your view of God compare to your view of the problem? What promises of God come to mind that might help you overcome your problem? Check out these promises: Philippians 4:13; Ephesians 3:20-21; Romans 8:31; Mark 9:23

7. Abraham's life of faith is described for us in Romans 4:18-21.

- What do you think it means that Abraham was absolutely or fully convinced? What caused Abraham to become that way?
- Are you fully convinced that God has the power to do what He promised in your life? Why or why not?
- What promises of God have you given up on?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

1. How have you lived out this verse? *All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own.* Isaiah 53:6
2. If you have lost your bearings and traveled to Egypt, what must you do right now to get back on the right path?
3. Review the three lessons Moses learned (from Roger's message) to get back to chasing the Wild Goose. Which ones do you need to take action on? Will you?

THINK ABOUT IT (Something to memorize or chew on)

Isaiah 55:8-9 (NLT) "My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts," says the Lord. "And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts."