



Careers in Retail Week 3 – Initiative and Decision Making

Scripture

Genesis 12:1-3

1 Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."

Thought for Today

God comes to Abram and presents him with a pretty crazy scenario. Out of nowhere, God calls Abram to leave his culture and his father's family to go to an undisclosed place. Abram is faced with a huge decision.

From a short term perspective, this decision seems like a no-brainer. There doesn't seem like there is any reason for Abram to decide to leave. The risk seems too great. Why on earth would he want to leave a familiar way of life in his country to follow a God he had never heard from before to a land where he had never been before?

But on the other side, the benefit is so great...great enough to outweigh any of the risk involved. Why? Because God makes Abram a promise, and whenever God makes a promise, you can know for sure that he is going to keep that promise. Yes, Abram is making a monumental life change, but attached are God's promises of blessing and making a great nation.

Abram stepped out in faith to follow God, and God kept true to all of his promises. He made Abram great and multiplied Abram's descendants so that they were as numerous as the stars in the sky. On top of all of that, God blessed the whole world through Abram by sending Jesus the Savior of the world through Abram's lineage. Ultimately, the benefits of God's promises far outweigh any potential risk.

Questions for Reflection

Where do you turn for guidance when you are faced with a difficult decision? How do you handle the difficult decisions in your life?

How do you see God keeping true to his promises in your own life?

For Further Study

Genesis 15:1-5; Genesis 17:1-8; Matthew 1:1-17; Romans 4:16-25