

## **Giving it Up Series**

### **Part 2 Giving Up Expectations**

Scripture references: Genesis 12:1-4, John 3:1-17 (NASB)

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1. Abraham followed God's call, even though he \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ how it would all work out.

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- Abraham's failed expectations caused \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_ for he, his family and others around him.

2. When Nicodemus is talking to Jesus, he has a hard time understanding what God's grace is really about because he is used to \_\_\_\_\_ in terms of \_\_\_\_\_.

- Nicodemus' expectations were based on what He could understand, but Jesus uses a \_\_\_\_\_ example to explain \_\_\_\_\_ truth.

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### **The Dangers of Wrong Expectations**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (sadness/displeasure)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (shame/loss of respect by others-real or imagined)

3. \_\_\_\_\_ (loss of confidence or enthusiasm)
4. \_\_\_\_\_ (conclude that something/someone is less good than we believed)

### **How should we deal with our expectations?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_.

*Habakkuk 2:2-3 (ESV) And the LORD answered me: "Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it. (3) For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end—it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.*

2. \_\_\_\_\_ on them. What do they mean to me and how did I arrived at them?

3. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ them. Differentiate between what God said and what I want.

### **Other things to remember:**

- God's ways and thoughts are higher than ours (Isaiah 55:8), but He will carry out His word (Jeremiah 1:12).
- God's plans are eternal, meaning something may start with me, but I may not see the fulfillment of what He has said in this life.
- Remember Romans 8:28
- Trust in God's goodness and love for you.  
  
"The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures; He will my Shield and Portion be, As long as life endures." (Amazing Grace verse 4)
- Expect that God will provide for your needs and fulfill His promises as you faithfully love and obey Him (Philippians 4:19).