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THREE THINGS WE CAN LEARN FROM ABRAM'S LIFE:

1. IF WE WANT TO SEE BIG CHANGES IN OUR LIVES, WE MAY HAVE TO BE WILLING TO _____.

*I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you... and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you. **Genesis 12:2-3 (NIV)***

*The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people, and your father's household, To the land I will show you." **Genesis 12:1 (NIV)***

The bottom line is that we need one another to be like Jesus. God himself has a communal expression (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit). Even our knowledge of God is incomplete without one another. The fullest knowledge of God attainable by human beings will only come about within a growing and God-knowing community of people. Thus to know God more fully cannot be achieved without the community of believers. (Issler)

2. JUST BECAUSE GOD HASN'T CHANGED YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES DOESN'T MEAN _____.

*I am your shield and your great reward. **Genesis 15:1 (NIV)***

*I am the Almighty God, walk before me and be blameless; Then I will make my covenant with you and greatly increase your numbers. **Genesis 17:1-2***

*Abram fell facedown.... **Genesis 17:3 (NIV)***

*This is my covenant with you: I will make you the father of a multitude of a nations! What's more, I am changing your name. It will no longer be Abram. Instead, you will be called Abraham, for you will be the father of many nations. I will make you extremely fruitful. Your descendants will become many nations, and kings will be among them! **Genesis 17:4-6 (NLT)***

*Regarding Sarai, your wife - her name will no longer be Sarai. From now on her name will be Sarah. And I will bless her and give you a son from her! Yes, I will bless her richly, and she will become the mother of many nations. Kings of nations will be among her descendants. **Genesis 17:15-16 (NLT)***

3. JUST BECAUSE GOD HASN'T CHANGED YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES DOESN'T MEAN HE _____.

*I am your shield, your very great reward. **Genesis 15:1 (NIV)***

*Look up at the sky and count the stars - if indeed you can count them.... So shall your offspring be. **Genesis 15:5 (NIV)***

*Bring me a heifer, a goat, and a ram, each three years old.... **Genesis 15:9 (NIV)***

*When the sun was down and it was dark, a flaming torch (which represented God)... moved between the split carcasses. That's when God made a covenant with Abraham. **Genesis 15:17 (NIV)***