

# God's Expectation for the Family

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Let's check these 2 statements:

Joshua 24:15 (NKJV)

And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

Genesis 12:1-3 (NKJV)

1 Now the Lord had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. 2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

God called Abram and made him a proposal to serve Him with his family. As a reward God would give him a good land to live in, being prosperous and also become a great nation being a reference for all families in the face of the earth. Therefore, every family that would be in a link with him and his family would become also blessed by the God of Abram.

Running against this "family-blueprint" established by God, the society has been corrupted by all kinds of wickedness, doing bad things in God's eyes and attracting all sorts of curses upon their own families.

For that reason, the number of divorces is higher than weddings nowadays and unfortunately this reality has affected even the church of Jesus Christ.

\* Abram meaning: Exalted Father; Abraham: Father of Many

**Let's see Three Steps of Abram's journey as a pilgrim:**

## 1<sup>st</sup> Step: Abram came to Shechem

Genesis 12:6-7 (NKJV)

6 Abram passed through the land to the place of Shechem, as far as the terebith tree of Moreh. And the Canaanites were then in the land. 7 Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." *And there he built an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him.*

- Shechem means: "Shoulder" – It calls us to take over the responsibility
- There Abram built an altar to the Lord as it was his first stop in the journey
- On this occasion, God confirmed the covenant He had with Abram in Harran, regarding the possession of the land of Canaan.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Step: Abram came to Bethel

Genesis 12:8 (NKJV)

And he moved from there to the mountain east of Bethel, and he pitched his tent with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; *there he built an altar to the Lord and called on the name of the Lord.*



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- Bethel means: “The House of God” – A place of devotion
- There is always a time to offer to God our adoration
- This is the best place to bring our family, a place of stability

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Step: Abram came to Hebron

Genesis 13:17-18 (NKJV)

17 Arise, walk in the land through its length and its width, for I give it to you.” 18 Then Abram moved his tent, and went and dwelt by the terebinth trees of Mamre, which are in Hebron, and *built an altar there to the Lord.*

- Hebron means: “Alliance” – A place of commitment
- Commitment with God produces stability and steadiness
- Independence is a false idea of freedom

This is a time to build an altar of adoration in our house, walk step by step with God and see the fulfilment of the Divine plan for you, your family and your society.

Jeremiah 29:11 (NKJV)

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.



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