## Point Group Notes

#### Acts 8:1-25

Getting to know you...

- 1. Share a funny story about stepping out of your comfort zone and having it fail. What was the worst that happened? Was it as big of a deal as you had built up in your head?
- 2. What are some "comfort areas" that make you feel protective? Think about things that make you nervous when you consider changes or challenges. List them below.
- 3. Do you have any questions or comments from Pastor John's sermon this week? What are they? What stood out to you?

### Digging Deeper

Acts 8 reminds us that we are not our own! The great commission calls us to share the Gospel of Jesus with the world, but it doesn't call us to make sure we are sharing our *preferences*. It calls us to share the *Gospel*. Jesus was asking his disciples to duplicate themselves, no matter the cost. Often, God uses circumstances that are not comfortable to grow us and to help illustrate the power of God in our lives, both to us, and to the people around us. Ultimately, God calls us out of our comfort zone for our good and the good of HIS Kingdom. Abram (not Abraham yet!) experienced something very similar. God spoke and asked him to "fly out of the nest" and go to a foreign land. This week, we are going to be looking at Abram's removal from his comfort zone, AKA his home, and discuss how God used this circumstance for his purpose. Read Genesis 12:1-4 and answer the following questions.

#### Genesis 12:1-4 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> Now the LORD said<sup>III</sup> to Abram, "Go from your country<sup>III</sup> and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."<sup>III</sup>

<sup>4</sup> So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

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- 1. In Genesis 12:1, God calls Abram to leave his country, his people, and his father's household to go to a land that God will show him. Remembering that this would have been 1000s of years ago, with no way of knowing what he was getting himself into and no way of contacting home. Why would this move have been so hard?
- 2. God Promised Abram three things. What were they? Why do you think Abram had to step out in faith for God to be able to grant these things to Abram?
- 3. How does Abram's willingness to leave his homeland at God's command reflect the idea of trusting God's plan, even when it requires stepping out of one's comfort zone?
- 4. What was Abram's age at this point in Genesis 12? Discuss your initial response to Abram's age when he is called.

### Taking it Home...

- 1. Abram decided to align his life with God's will despite the difficulty. What could you do in your life TODAY to begin to do the same?
- 2. God does not call us to do difficult things for the "fun of it". How do you make sure that you are doing what God has asked you to do and not creating "spiritual discomfort" for the sake of "religion"? *ie. Selling your car to walk 15 miles to work so that you can give more to missions… If that's not a clear directive from the Lord*.
- 3. Abram was 75 years old! Age can certainly be a reason that we would use not to do something hard for the Lord! But it wasn't for Abram! What do you think is holding you back from doing something difficult? How can your point group be praying for you and this circumstance?

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