

# Go From Your Country

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## WHAT WE FOUND

- After eleven chapters of widening ruin, God begins the repair by calling one man: leave country, kindred, father's house, for “the land that I will show you.” Abram went, at seventy-five, with a barren wife and no map. Faith is entrustment before it is information.
- The call reverses Babel point by point: they grasped a name, God gives one; they huddled, he is sent; they built up, the word came down. And the beneficiaries are “all the families of the earth”: the seventy nations of chapter 10. Blessed to be a blessing.
- Scripture does not airbrush its founder: in Egypt, Abram's faith buckles and Sarai pays for it. God rescues the promise the patriarch endangered. The covenant runs on God's fidelity, not Abram's polish, and that is good news for every faith that buckles under famine.
- Two kings meet the victor: Sodom's king offers goods and is refused; Salem's king-priest, Melchizedek, offers bread, wine, and blessing, and receives a tithe. A priest whose genealogy Scripture never records, in the very book of genealogies.
- Psalm 110:4 swears the Messiah into Melchizedek's order forever, and Hebrews 7 unfolds it: king of righteousness, king of peace, priest by indestructible life. Melchizedek's bread and wine prefigure the Eucharist; at every altar the Church meets Christ's eternal priesthood, prefigured in Melchizedek.

## VOICES OF THE CHURCH

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**St. Clement of Rome** · *Letter to the Corinthians*

Abraham was called the friend of God because he was found faithful in obedience to God's words: believing and going are one motion.

### VOICE OF THE CHURCH

**St. Ambrose of Milan** · *On the Sacraments, Book IV*

Melchizedek's bread and wine prefigure the sacraments of the altar: a priesthood older than Levi, whose order Christ holds forever.

### VOICE OF THE CHURCH

**St. John Henry Newman** · *Parochial and Plain Sermons IV, “The Ventures of Faith”*

Real faith is known by what it ventures: what we stake on God's word that would be lost if His word were untrue. What have you actually ventured?

## LIVE IT THIS WEEK

- Write your own 12:1 in one sentence: the going God is asking of you this season. Date it and keep it.

- Make one venture this week: one act that only makes sense if God's promises are true.
- At the presentation of the gifts this Sunday, name Melchizedek to yourself and receive the blessing of the true King of Salem.
- Read Genesis 15–17. Bring your Session 1 Take-Home with the sealed My Guess box, unopened: next session we open them.

### **MEMORY VERSE**

*“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.” (Genesis 12:2)*

### **BEFORE NEXT SESSION**

Read Genesis 15–17 and bring your sealed My Guess sheet from Session 1.

**Catechism references:** CCC 59–61, 144–146, 762, 1333, 1544, 2570–2572.