

Life-Sharing Lesson 1 Facing Our Giants- The Giant Of The Future  
Genesis 12:1-9

1. What was an unexpected change that came into your life that caused you to fear the future?

2. Why do we fear the future?

**Genesis 12:1-9 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. <sup>2</sup> "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

<sup>4</sup> So Abram left, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran. <sup>5</sup> He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.

<sup>6</sup> Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. <sup>7</sup> The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him. <sup>8</sup> From there he went on toward the hills east of Bethel and 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.

<sup>9</sup> Then Abram set out and continued toward the Negev.

3. What would be your response if you had a dream one night, and in the dream God told you to go to Argentina in South America so that he could bless you?

4. What type of resistance would Abram have had to deal with to act in obedience to God's call on his life?

5. Why do you think God couldn't just bless Abram and Sarai right where they were?

6. When is it necessary for God to remove some good things from our lives in order to take us to another level?
  
7. What “leaving” or “loss” have you suffered in life, that has actually made you stronger in life or caused you to see your life differently?
  
8. How was Abram supposed to know exactly where it was he was to go and how was he going to know when he got there?
  
9. The giant of the future is really about trusting God? What part of the future do you have the hardest time with in trusting God?
  
10. What’s the difference in having the promise of peace from Jesus and in having the desire to avoid any potential storms?
  
- 10b. Is faith really faith if we have all the details? What’s the biggest question you think we should ask before making a major decision?
  
11. What giants did Abram and Sarai face on this faith journey with God in going to Canaan?

12. Abram and Sarai waited 24 years for the promise of God concerning their child Isaac. How long do we have to wait before we know if our obedience was truly worth it?

13. As a church, what giants are we still facing as we prepare to create a new congregation out of Glenville and Calvary?

14. What will you do to help us overcome some of those giants so that the new congregation can quickly move forward in winning lives for Jesus Christ?

Life-Sharing Lesson 2 Facing Our Giants—The Giant Of Temptation  
1 Corinthians 10:6-13

1. What feelings have you had when you faced a temptation and was able to successfully handle it?

2. What feelings have you had when you gave into temptation?

**1 Corinthians 10:6-13 (NIV)**

<sup>6</sup> Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. <sup>7</sup> Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in pagan revelry."

<sup>8</sup> We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did--and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died.

<sup>9</sup> We should not test the Lord, as some of them did--and were killed by snakes.

<sup>10</sup> And do not grumble, as some of them did--and were killed by the destroying angel.

<sup>11</sup> These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come. <sup>12</sup> So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! <sup>13</sup> No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

**James 1:13-15 (NIV)** <sup>13</sup> When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; <sup>14</sup> but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed.

<sup>15</sup> Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

3. What are the steps to temptations?

4. What is the difference in our role for temptation and Satan's role in our temptation?

5. How do we set ourselves up for temptation?

6. Do you agree or disagree with the statement, “the devil made me do it.”

**Proverbs 15:3 (NIV)** <sup>3</sup> The eyes of the LORD are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good.

7. What warning does Proverbs 15:3 give us when we think nobody will know if we yield to the giant of temptation?

**Psalms 111:10 (NIV)**

<sup>10</sup> The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise.

8. What role should fearing God have in our facing temptation?

**Numbers 32:23 (NIV)**

<sup>23</sup> "But if you fail to do this, you will be sinning against the LORD; and you may be sure that your sin will find you out.

9. What does Numbers 32:23 mean in your own words?

**Ecclesiastes 8:8 (NIV)** <sup>8</sup> No man has power over the wind to contain it; so no one has power over the day of his death. As no one is discharged in time of war, so wickedness will not release those who practice it.

9. We often think we can walk away from sin anytime we choose to do so? What warning do we find in Ecclesiastes 8:8 of our ability to simply walk away?

9a. What's wrong with the idea of compromising saying "I'm only going to give in to this, this one time?"

**Hebrews 12:4-11 (NIV)**

<sup>4</sup> In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. <sup>5</sup> And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons: "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, <sup>6</sup> because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son." <sup>7</sup> Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? <sup>8</sup> If you are not disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons. <sup>9</sup> Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live!

<sup>10</sup> Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness. <sup>11</sup> No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

10. Why is it necessary for God to sometimes bring our sin out into the open for others to see what we have done or are doing?

11. Why do we go through so much trouble of trying to hide our sin? Why are our attempts often futile?

12. How long will a Christian be challenged by the giant of temptation?

13. If God provides a door of escape from temptation, why are we reluctant to take the door?

14. If we think our sin is no big deal and can be done away with by a simple prayer seeking forgiveness, what's the big picture that we are missing in the equation.

15. What type of barriers do you build into your life, to keep you from facing the giant of temptation head on?

Life-Sharing Lesson 3 Facing The Giants—The Giant of Money Problems  
Luke 12:13-21

1. Which is the greater cause of our money problem? 1) We do not make enough money or 2) We want to live at a higher standard than on the money we make.

2. How much money does it take for a person to feel rich?

**Luke 12:13-21 (NIV)**

<sup>13</sup> Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." <sup>14</sup> Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?" <sup>15</sup> Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

<sup>16</sup> And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. <sup>17</sup> He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' <sup>18</sup> "Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup> And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry."

<sup>20</sup> "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' <sup>21</sup> "This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God."

4. Jesus mentioned "all kinds of greed." What kinds of greed do you think exist today?

5. What other alternatives did the rich man have as he contemplated what to do with his money?

6. Do you think the rich man felt rich, why or why not?



7. Short of legitimate reasons such as loss of job or illness, what are the reasons we usually go into debt?

8. Funerals today can cost from \$4000 to \$12,000 dollars. We all know that we are going to die. Why do so many people die with cell phones or cable tv, but with no life insurance?

9. How can a person have just gotten paid, and actually have no money available?

9a. What are some of the hidden money grabbers that we do not often see when we think we have extra money available to us?

**Ecclesiastes 4:4 (NIV)**

<sup>4</sup> And I saw that all labor and all achievement spring from man's envy of his neighbor. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind. (This is keeping up with the Jones'es)

10. In what arena of life are you most tempted to keep up with the Jones to the point of stretching your finances?

11. How do we begin to break the habit of envying what others have and trying to equal or top them in the process?

12. When you think of actually giving 10% a tithe, to the Lord, do you see it as money you could be spending on something else or as part of your commitment to the Lord.

13. When a person says they cannot afford to tithe or a person does not tithe, what is the person really saying about money, lifestyle, or trust in God?

14. How do you feel when there is another announcement about the church going further and further into a deficit?

15. What is the issue truly about when it comes to giving from God's view point?

16. Do you think God wants us to have an excess in our income or does God want us to barely have enough in order to trust God?

17. What benefits come from slaying the giant of money problems?