

## **Election: What did God choose?**

1. The earliest record of God choosing something involving a human being is found in the covenant that God makes with Abraham. This unilateral unconditional covenant that God makes with Abraham is of great significance. What did God choose? Circle the significant words that shows God's choice.

And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. And I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God.” (Gen 17:7-8, ESV)

2. Why did God choose Abraham? What role does Abraham play in God's plan?

The LORD said, “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what he has promised him.” (Gen 18:17-19, ESV)

3. With a good understanding of the first two questions, how does this impact your understanding of the apostle Paul's statement to the Ephesian church?

remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. (Eph 2:12, ESV)

## Election: What did God choose?

### Teacher Notes

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Ask the student: what came first – Abraham's faith in God or God making a covenant with Abraham? If helpful, the teacher can share Genesis 12:1-4.

Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 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. 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.”

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. (Gen 12:1-4, ESV)

In listening and obeying God's voice / words, Abraham displays a faith in God. Abraham's faith occurs before God makes a covenant with him. Because of Abraham's faith in Him, God committed to be God to Abraham and his offspring.

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Ask the student: besides his faith, why did God choose to make His covenant with Abraham?

Abraham, not only had faith in God, but he was capable of teaching the ways of the Lord to his offspring.

Ask the student: does this passage explain why it was important for Abraham to teach the way of the Lord?

Help the student see that this passage defines who a descendant of Abraham is. To fulfill His covenant promises to Abraham, God requires Abraham's descendants to keep the way of the Lord; they must have faith in God.

3. With a good understanding of the first two questions, how does this impact your understanding of the apostle Paul's statement to the Ephesian church?

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Without knowledge of the way of the Lord, Gentiles are not aware of God or His covenant promises to the offspring of Abraham.