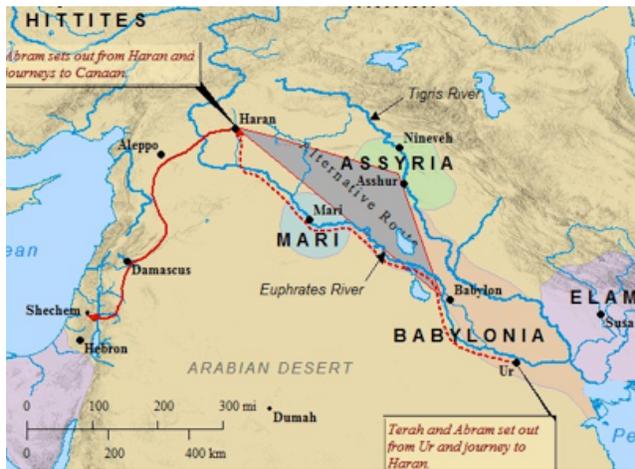


# El Elyon

## God Most High



### DAY ONE

This week we will look at El Elyon, the God Most High. Let's begin by reading Genesis 12:1-9.

*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. 2 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. 3 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." 4 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. 5 And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, 6 Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. 7 Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. 8 From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. 9 And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.*

Remember, last week we said when we see LORD in all caps this is the name Jehovah, and Jehova means the Self-Existing One.

Who is the LORD speaking to in this section of Scripture? \_\_\_\_\_

What specific instructions did the LORD give? \_\_\_\_\_

How did Abram respond to God's request? \_\_\_\_\_

How old was Abram when God called him? \_\_\_\_\_

Take a moment and put yourself in Abram's sandals. Go back and read Genesis 12:1 again, but this time, insert your name in place of Abram's, and picture yourself in his situation.

● Would this have been a difficult assignment for you to obey, and why? \_\_\_\_\_  
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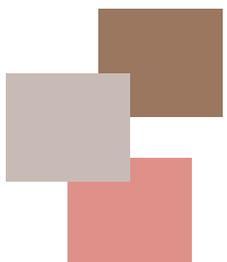
● What would it require for you to respond like Abram? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

● What might be some of the costs for obedience? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

● Have you ever experienced a call by God to do something which held many unknowns? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

● Reread Genesis 12:1-3, and underline all the promises God made to Abram. Write them below in your own words.

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● What promises has God given you? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

This was a turning point in the life of Abram. We each must make decisions at times that will affect the trajectory of our future. This was a very important decision for not only Abram but for his family and his heritage. It is impossible to always know the importance of a change we are about to make. That is why every decision should be bathed in prayer. Obedience to the call of God is always the right decision.

## DAY TWO

According to Genesis 12:4-5, who went with Abram on this journey? \_\_\_\_\_

For a few moments, let's consider the thoughts and feelings of Abram's wife Sarai. It is one thing to directly hear God call you to follow him, as Abram did, but what do you think Sarai might have been thinking? \_\_\_\_\_  
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What questions might she have had? What would it require for Sarai to follow peacefully? I am not simply talking about submission as a wife to defer to her husband's lead. Although that is very important, but what would be required in order to follow truly peacefully without worry or doubt?

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If your spouse came home and told you God had been speaking to him about a dramatic life change, how would you respond? \_\_\_\_\_

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Perhaps your spouse has an opportunity for advancement in another state or with another company. Maybe he is considering retirement. What should be our response? \_\_\_\_\_

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Now read Genesis 12:10-20, and let's take a look at the next event in the life of Abram and Sarai.

*10 Now there was a famine in the land. So Abram went down to Egypt to sojourn there, for the famine was severe in the land. 11 When he was about to enter Egypt, he said to Sarai his wife, "I know that you are a woman beautiful in appearance, 12 and when the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife.' Then they will kill me, but they will let you live. 13 Say you are my sister, that it may go well with me because of you, and that my life may be spared for your sake." 14 When Abram entered Egypt, the Egyptians saw that the woman was very beautiful. 15 And when the princes of Pharaoh saw her, they praised her to Pharaoh. And the woman was taken into Pharaoh's house. 16 And for her sake he dealt well with Abram; and he had sheep, oxen, male donkeys, male servants, female servants, female donkeys, and camels. 17 But the LORD afflicted Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai, Abram's wife. 18 So Pharaoh called Abram and said, "What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife? 19 Why did you say, 'She is my sister,' so that I took her for my wife? Now then, here is your wife; take her, and go." 20 And Pharaoh gave men orders concerning him, and they sent him away with his wife and all that he had.*

Abram and Sarai have found themselves in the midst of a famine in the land; the land where God had led them. Abram heard there was food in Egypt, so he took his family and went to live there for a season. If God allowed this famine and he provided food in Egypt, what do you believe God is trying to reveal to Abram?

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Difficulties are a part of life. Jesus told his disciples plainly in John 16:33, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." Do you believe God can bless you and care for you wherever you live?

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God made Abram some promises when he called him, how is God continuing to faithfully carry out his promises? \_\_\_\_\_

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## DAY THREE

What did you learn about Sarai in Genesis 12:14? \_\_\_\_\_

Abram may have been a man of great faith leading his family and following God. But all of us have moments of fear. Fear is a bully and a liar. All it takes sometimes is a mere seed of fear. What seeds of fear do you believe Satan spoke to Abram as he journeyed to Egypt? \_\_\_\_\_

Abram was not recalling the truth that he already knew about GOD. How would recalling the character of GOD, Jehova Elohim, have helped Abram face so many unknowns? \_\_\_\_\_

Thankfully, we have the blessing of the New Testament for guidance. Read 2 Corinthians 10:3-5. What is the wise response when fear comes into our thoughts? \_\_\_\_\_

### 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

*For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.*

In Genesis 13 we read about some of the difficulties of living in an important and affluent family.

### Genesis 13

*So Abram went up from Egypt, he and his wife and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the Negeb. 2 Now Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold. 3 And he journeyed on from the Negeb as far as Bethel to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai, 4 to the place where he had made an altar at the first. And there Abram called upon the name of the LORD. 5 And Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents, 6 so that the land could not support both of them dwelling together; for their possessions were so great that they could not dwell together, 7 and there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. At that time the Canaanites and the Perizzites were dwelling in the land. 8 Then Abram said to Lot, "Let there be no strife between you and me, and between your herdsmen and my herdsmen, for we are kinsmen. 9 Is not the whole land before you? Separate yourself from me. If you take the left hand, then I will go to the right, or if you take the right hand, then I will go to the left." 10 And Lot lifted up his eyes and saw that the Jordan Valley was well watered everywhere like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, in the direction of Zoar. (This was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) 11 So Lot chose for himself all the Jordan Valley, and Lot journeyed east. Thus they separated from each other. 12 Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled among the cities of the valley and moved his tent as far as Sodom. 13 Now the men of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against the LORD. 14 The LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, "Lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward, 15 for all the land that you*

*see I will give to you and to your offspring forever. 16 I will make your offspring as the dust of the earth, so that if one can count the dust of the earth, your offspring also can be counted. 17 Arise, walk through the length and the breadth of the land, for I will give it to you." 18 So Abram moved his tent and came and settled by the oaks of Mamre, which are at Hebron, and there he built an altar to the LORD.*

What problem was revealed in Genesis 13:1-7? \_\_\_\_\_

What was the solution? \_\_\_\_\_

Notice Abram gave Lot the choice of where he would live. Where did Lot choose to pitch his tents, and why did he choose this area? \_\_\_\_\_

What truth about the LORD do we see displayed in Abram's actions? \_\_\_\_\_

The greed and selfishness of others may look like they are taking the best but what do we know about God? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you experienced someone treating you with ingratitude after you have shown love? Romans 12:19 addresses this issue. How are believers to respond? \_\_\_\_\_

Romans 12:19

*Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."*

## DAY FOUR

Genesis 14 tells another story from the life of Abram and his family.

Genesis 14

*In the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of Goiim, 2 these kings made war with Bera king of Sodom, Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, Shemeber king of Zeboim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar). 3 And all these joined forces in the Valley of Siddim (that is, the Salt Sea). 4 Twelve years they had served Chedorlaomer, but in the thirteenth year they rebelled. 5 In the fourteenth year Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him came and defeated the Rephaim in Ashteroth-karnaim, the Zuzim in Ham, the Emim in Shaveh-kiriathaim, 6 and the Horites in their hill country of Seir as far as El-paran on the border of the wilderness. 7 Then they turned back and came to En-mishpat (that is, Kadesh) and defeated all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites who were dwelling in Hazazon-tamar. 8 Then the king of Sodom, the king of Gomorrah, the king of Admah, the king of Zeboim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar) went out, and they joined battle*

in the Valley of Siddim 9 with Chedorlaomer king of Elam, Tidal king of Goiim, Amraphel king of Shinar, and Arioch king of Ellasar, four kings against five. 10 Now the Valley of Siddim was full of bitumen pits, and as the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, some fell into them, and the rest fled to the hill country. 11 So the enemy took all the possessions of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their provisions, and went their way. 12 They also took Lot, the son of Abram's brother, who was dwelling in Sodom, and his possessions, and went their way. 13 Then one who had escaped came and told Abram the Hebrew, who was living by the oaks of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol and of Aner. These were allies of Abram. 14 When Abram heard that his kinsman had been taken captive, he led forth his trained men, born in his house, 318 of them, and went in pursuit as far as Dan. 15 And he divided his forces against them by night, he and his servants, and defeated them and pursued them to Hobah, north of Damascus. 16 Then he brought back all the possessions, and also brought back his kinsman Lot with his possessions, and the women and the people. 17 After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). 18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.) 19 And he blessed him and said, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; 20 and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!" And Abram gave him a tenth of everything. 21 And the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, but take the goods for yourself." 22 But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have lifted my hand to the LORD, God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth, 23 that I would not take a thread or a sandal strap or anything that is yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich.' 24 I will take nothing but what the young men have eaten, and the share of the men who went with me. Let Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre take their share."

As we have seen, the life of one who is living for God is not always easy. Bad things still happen to those who follow God and their family members. Not long after Lot and Abram separated something terrible happened. Several kings went to war against one another, and in all the fighting Lot, Abram's nephew, and all he owned, was taken captive. When this was reported to Abram what did he do? \_\_\_\_\_

How would you expect someone to respond who had been treated with such selfishness and ingratitude? \_\_\_\_\_

How might you respond if it was reported to you that a loved one who had treated you with little concern or respect was now in dire need of help? \_\_\_\_\_

Abram returned victorious bringing his nephew and all that belonged to him home safely. The King of Salem brought out bread and wine to celebrate. He blessed Abram and wanted to reward him for all he and his men had done. But instead of taking a reward, we see Abram giving an offering to God. The name used to describe God in Genesis 14:19-20 is El Elyon, the God Most High. Abram said "I have raised my hand to the LORD, God Most High," Abram had vowed a vow. After reading Genesis 14:22-24, what do you believe Abram prayed and promised before going to save Lot from his captors? \_\_\_\_\_

## DAY FIVE

Briefly describe the last truly difficult situation you faced, and how you involved God? \_\_\_\_\_

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When you are about to undertake a potentially risky and difficult task, are you careful to pray before starting? What would you ask God to do for you? \_\_\_\_\_

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Read the verses below, circle what you see about El Elyon, the God Most High.

*For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth. Psalm 47:2*

*I cry out to God Most High, to God who fulfills his purpose for me. Psalm 57:2*

*They remembered that God was their rock, the Most High God their redeemer. Psalm 78:35*

What have you learned about God that could help you face your difficulties with comfort and peace? \_\_\_\_\_

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Are there things that are trying to get your attention and steal your affection? \_\_\_\_\_

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What things might hinder us from relying on the God we have come to know? \_\_\_\_\_

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Write a definition for the name El Elyon in your own words. \_\_\_\_\_

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## He alone is sovereign.

Define

Sovereign-

1. Supreme in power; possessing supreme dominion;
2. Superior to all others.
3. Predominant, highest authority in all dominions.

**Luke 1:37 TPT** *Not one promise from God is empty of power, for nothing is impossible with God!*

**Revelation 21:6** *"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End."*

**Colossians 1:16** *"For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him."*

**Romans 11:33 TPT** *Who could ever wrap their minds around the riches of God, the depth of his wisdom, and the marvel of his perfect knowledge? Who could ever explain the wonder of his decisions[a] or search out the mysterious way he carries out his plans?*

**Jeremiah 32:17** *"Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you."*

**Psalms 103:17-19 TPT** *Lord, your endless love stretches from one eternity to the other, unbroken and unrelenting toward those who fear you and those who bow face-down in awe before you. Your faithfulness to keep every gracious promise you've made passes from parents, to children, to grandchildren, and beyond. You are faithful to all those who follow your ways and keep your word. God's heavenly throne is eternal, secure, and strong, and his sovereignty rules the entire universe.*

**Romans 8:28** God's promise to those who love him. "We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

**Jeremiah 29:11** "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

**How should we respond to El Elyon?**

- Submission
- Obedience

**Micah 6:8** He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

**Daniel 4:22-37** *...it is you, O king, who have grown and become strong. Your greatness has grown and reaches to heaven, and your dominion to the ends of the earth. 23 And because the king saw a watcher, a holy one, coming down from heaven and saying, 'Chop down the tree and destroy it, but leave the stump of its roots in the earth, bound with a band of iron and bronze,*

in the tender grass of the field, and let him be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts of the field, till seven periods of time pass over him,'

24 this is the interpretation, O king: It is a decree of the Most High, which has come upon my lord the king, 25 that you shall be driven from among men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. You shall be made to eat grass like an ox, and you shall be wet with the dew of heaven, and seven periods of time shall pass over you, till you know that the Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will.

26 And as it was commanded to leave the stump of the roots of the tree, your kingdom shall be confirmed for you from the time that you know that Heaven rules. 27 Therefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable to you: break off your sins by practicing righteousness, and your iniquities by showing mercy to the oppressed, that there may perhaps be a

lengthening of your prosperity." 28 All this happened to King Nebuchadnezzar. 29 Twelve months later, as the king was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon, 30 he said, "Is not this the great Babylon I have built as the royal residence, by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty?" 31 Even as the words were on his lips, a voice came from heaven, "This is what is decreed for you, King Nebuchadnezzar: Your royal authority has been taken from you. 32 You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals; you will eat grass like the ox. Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes." 33 Immediately what had been said about Nebuchadnezzar was fulfilled. He was driven away from people and ate grass like the ox. His body was drenched with the dew of heaven until his hair grew like the feathers of an eagle and his nails like the claws of a bird. 34 At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified him who lives forever. His dominion is an eternal dominion; his kingdom endures from generation to generation. 35 All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back his hand or say to him: "What have you done?" 36 At the same time that my sanity was restored, my honor and splendor were returned to me for the glory of my kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored to my throne and became even greater than before. 37 Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble.