GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

Egypt Week 1: Compromising in Crisis Genesis 12:1-3, 10-20

Week of October 23, 2022 (Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

Maybe you don't usually think about Christianity taking place in Egypt, but some of the Bible's most thrilling events happened there. In our new series, "Egypt – A Line in the Sand" our hope is that you will encounter God in this alluring setting, as we examine six historic and biblical events that took place in Egypt.

Kicking It Off:

Jim and Linda Onan's home that features the replicas of Egypt also served as somewhat of a travel destination. What's the most unusual roadside or tourist spot you've ever visited (or hope to one day)?

Discussion:

- 1. The Sphinx, pyramids, mummies, and legendary pharaohs ... *what initially comes to your mind when you think about Egypt?* What highlights did you learn from this week's message?
- 2. Read Genesis 12:2-3. What did God instruct Abram to do? What promises did God make to him?

"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. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

3. In Genesis 12:10, we see that there was a famine in the land and Abram went to Egypt, but it's not clear that God instructed him to do so. Think of a time when you tried to do something on your own to improve your situation, though it wasn't necessarily God's direction for you. How did things turn out? What did you learn in the process?

"Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine was severe."

- 4. Abram begins to freak out when he enters Egypt and makes some very foolish decisions. Why do you think he was so nervous about encountering the Egyptians? How do you think you would have reacted if you were in his shoes?
- 5. What are some ways we can practice being *unflinchable* when life sends us hardship or unexpected curves? Which specific disciplines would you like to see more of in your own life?

Wrapping Up:

Hebrews 11:8 reminds us that Abram (later Abraham) showed great faith in moving to a new land and trusting God, even when he didn't know where he was going. But during his time in Egypt, Abram learned some valuable lessons from God, despite Abram's poor decisions. How can your small group pray for and encourage you to keep your faith strong — even when you face health, financial, or career path unknowns?