

# 119

## MINISTRIES

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### **Parashah Points: Lech Lecha – The Call of Abraham Today**

Welcome to another episode of Parashah Points—short thoughts from the weekly Torah Portion.

This week’s Parashah Point comes from Lech Lecha, which is Hebrew for “Go forth,” and it goes from Genesis 12:1 to Genesis 17:27.

In this parashah, we’re introduced to the patriarch Abram, who later became known as Abraham.

God reveals Himself to Abram and calls him to leave his homeland and go to a new land (Genesis 12:1-10).

This parashah also tells the story of Abram’s passing off his wife, Sarai, as his sister in Egypt (Genesis 12:10-20)

We also learn about Abram and his nephew, Lot, parting ways (Genesis 13) followed by Lot’s captivity and rescue (Genesis 14:1-16)

Then there’s the account of Abram being blessed by Melchizedek (Genesis 14:17-24), God’s Covenant with Abram (Genesis 15), the Hagar scandal and the birth of Ishmael (Genesis 16), and finally the covenant of circumcision (Genesis 17).

There’s a lot that we can talk about in this Torah Portion. Today we’re going to look at Abraham, the Messiah, and our call to “go forth” and make disciples.

After the Bible briefly introduces us to Abraham—or Abram, before God later changes His name—we encounter a profound passage, which springboards the entire story and mission of God’s people, Israel. This has come to be known as the call of Abraham:

#### **Genesis 12:1-3**

Now the Lord [YHWH] 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 Abraham’s story begins with God calling him to leave his old life behind and follow Him. The plan was to bless “all the families of the earth” through Abraham and his descendants. Thus, the promise always included anyone from the nations who would desire to know the Lord and worship Him. And this promise comes to fruition in the Messiah:

### **Galatians 3:8**

And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.”

Abraham’s story and ministry have many parallels to Yeshua’s. Just as Abraham was called by God to go to another land in order to fulfill a divine calling (Genesis 12:1-3), the Messiah was called by the Father to sojourn among us in order to fulfill a divine calling (John 3:16).

Just as Abraham interceded for sinners (Genesis 18:17), Messiah intercedes for us (Hebrews 7:25).

Just as Abraham walked in obedience to God’s commands (Genesis 26:5), Yeshua walked in perfect obedience to His Father’s commands (2 Peter 2:22).

Just as Abraham became the father of the nation of Israel—which is tasked with representing God’s holiness, love, and justice to the nations—Yeshua became the leader of a movement of God’s people with the same task, which has radically changed the world and brought countless people from the nations to know the Lord.

Yeshua fulfills the calling of Abraham—and it continues to be fulfilled today through those who have answered the call to leave their old life behind and follow Messiah. Yeshua said, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me” (Luke 14:27).

It is the people—the family—created in Messiah through whom the nations of the world are blessed. We have a direct role in the mission that was given to Abraham to bless the nations:

### **Matthew 28:19-20**

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

So, Lech Lecha—“go forth,” make disciples, and bless the nations with the Messiah’s love, fulfilling the call of Abraham.

Thank you for joining us for another Parashah Point!

*We pray you have been blessed by this teaching. Remember, continue to test everything. Shalom! For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at [www.testeverything.net](http://www.testeverything.net)*

**Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.**

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