

## Life Applications

*But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.  
For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer,  
he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror.  
For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like.  
But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres,  
being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts,  
he will be blessed in his doing.*

*James 1:22-25*

Life applications put Sunday school lessons into practice. With these as part of the lesson plan, teachers and students make a commitment to live God's word every day. In many respects this is what Sunday schooling is about. It is what life is about. And it is not as hard as it sounds.

Chose one thing that is related to the lesson.  
Talk about it. Pray about it together.  
Try to do it in the week ahead.  
Encourage each other in the doing.  
Be blessed in the doing.  
And share the outcome with everyone next week.

## God's Call and Promises to Abram – Genesis 12

Abram was willing to give up the comforts of a settled life and undertake a journey of faith because God made promises to him, and he was convinced that God's promises were true – Genesis 11:31-12:3; Acts 7:2-3; Hebrews 11:8.

- Correspond with a missionary brother or sister who has left the comforts of a settled home and job to take the gospel of salvation to people in a domestic or foreign place. Find out why they did it and what it is like.
- Interview a brother or sister in your ecclesia who has made a significant sacrifice to accept the truth and be baptized into Christ. Why did they do it?
- Discuss why so many brothers and sisters in Christ give time, energy, and resources to help the ecclesia preach and minister to others. They do it without regard for themselves. Personal sacrifice is often involved. Why do they do it? Identify something you can do on a small scale and try it.
- Brainstorm a list of things that disciples do when they are convinced that the promises of God are true and certain of fulfillment. Pick something from the list and focus on it for the next week or more. As their teacher, take the lead in this: "I am going to ..., and I will let you know how it works out for me."

- What would you do if God spoke directly to you (as He did to Abram) and called you to:

Put Him above worldly ambition.

Read His word and believe it.

Put on Christ in baptism.

Be kind, gentle, forgiving, etc.

Would you do it? What would it take? Would you do it gladly or grudgingly? How does God speak directly to us today and call on us to do these things?

Find and read one Bible passage that relates to one of these things (e.g., putting God first instead of self; e.g., being obedient; e.g., being kind). Decide what everyone can do about it in the coming week and make an effort to do it.

- “By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going” – Hebrews 11:8. Discuss why it is important to do what our parents tell us, even when we do not understand the reason for it. How does this relate to obeying God? Look at Ephesians 6:1-4 and Colossians 3:20-21 in the process; also Exodus 20:12. Talk about ways that everyone can be more obedient to their parents in the week ahead. Make the effort. Acknowledge good results.