- 1. Describe a messy situation in your life that threatened your spiritual, relational, professional, or personal growth. What effect did it have on you? How did you overcome it?
- 2. Read Genesis 11:27-12:1. Why is God's calling of Abram such a big deal? What is God asking Abram to trust him for?
- 3. Read Genesis 12:1–3. What does God promise to Abram? Why is this significant when we consider what God was asking Abram to leave behind?
- 4. Read Genesis 12:4-9. What about Abram's initial response is impressive? How do you tend to respond when you understand God calling you to trust him for something significant?
- 5. What three major roadblocks does the text present? See 11:30, 12:6b, 12:10. What roadblocks have you experienced in your Christian life?
- 6. Read Genesis 12:4-5, 10-15. What backup plans does Abram implement? What about these plans are particularly troubling? How do we tend to "hedge our bets" when it comes to God's calling on our lives?
- 7. Read Genesis 12:16-20. What surprises us about what happens after Abram implements his backup plans? What might this tell us about how God interacts with our mess?
- 8. In what ways is God calling you to respond in faith these days? How can you trust him in the midst of the calling? What messes have you already made or are prone to make in the process? Thank God for his ability to triumph over your mess and ask him for faith to trust him in spite of it.