



*Covenant
and Ritual*

Abraham & Joseph

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. ²I will make
of you a great nation, and I will bless
you, and make your name great, so
that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless
those who bless you, and the one who
curses you I will curse; and in you all
the families of the earth shall be
blessed.” *Genesis 12:1-3*

Three chapters
and many years later,
the old man Abram
still remains childless



The word of the
Lord came to
Abram in a vision:



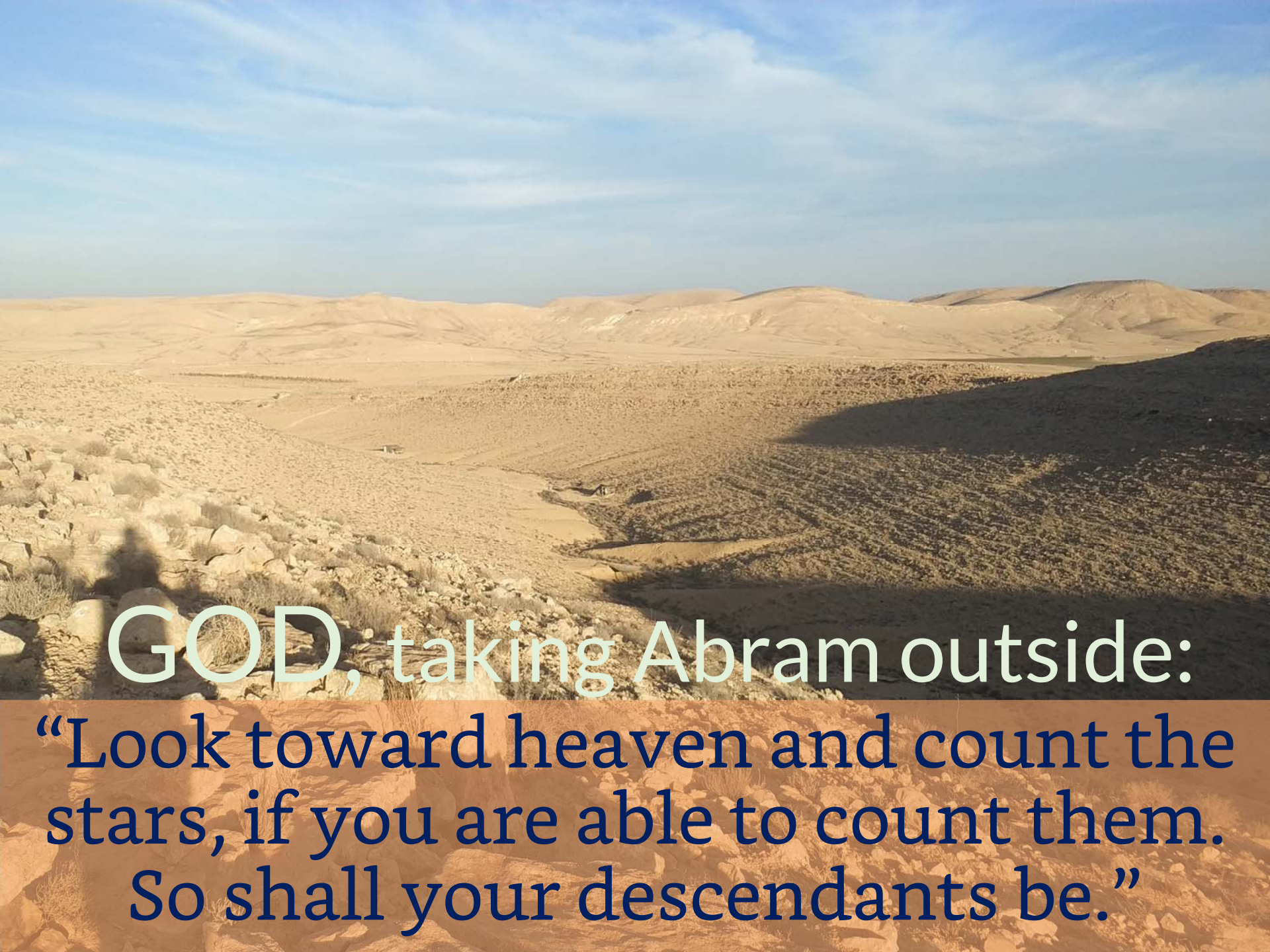
*Do not
be
afraid*

I continue childless



GOD, taking Abram outside:

“Look toward heaven and
count the stars, if you are
able to count them.”



GOD, taking Abram outside:
“Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them. So shall your descendants be.”

Abram believed the Lord,
who reckoned it to him as

righteousness



As Joseph & Mary went about the
ordinary process of fulfilling the
requirements of the Jewish law

God blessed them
through Simeon and Anna



Rituals bring God
into everyday life



*Find ways
to celebrate
God in the*
ORDINARY

New Year / New Beginnings