

ACTIVATE

@awaken

Activate your faith
by serving at Awaken!

Israel + Rome

FALL 2026

Details Meeting - Feb. 15 after the 11am

UCYC, LOCATED IN PRESCOTT, AZ

YOUTH CAMP

JULY 6 - JULY 10

STRONG FAMILY. STRONG CHURCH. STRONG MISSION.

initiative sunday
2026: Becoming Family
Genesis 12:1-4

Total Time: 60 minutes (flexible)

opening prayer

Leader Prompt (Optional): Tonight is not about a program or a plan. It's about recognizing that God is forming us together. From the beginning, God's work has always been about creating a people—not just directing individuals.

Prayer: "Father, thank You for calling us into relationship with You and with one another. Shape us into the people You desire us to be. Give us hearts that trust You even when the path ahead isn't clear. Teach us to walk together as family. In Jesus' name, Amen."

highlights & connection

Purpose: Build relational warmth and invite honest reflection about belonging, change, and formation.

Leader Prompt (Optional): *Share briefly how God has been at work in your life this week—highs, lows, growth, or challenges. Make room for everyone to participate.*

opening reflection

- When you hear the word family, what emotions come up first?
- What helps you feel safe and welcomed in community?
- Have you ever been part of a group where you felt like you truly belonged?

frame the night

Opening: "The Mission Is Gone. But We Are Not."

Read Aloud: *Shackleton stood on the ice after the ship sank and said: "The ship is gone. The mission is gone. But we are not."*

- The destination changed. The people didn't stop mattering.

Transition Question:

- When has a plan in your life fallen apart, but something deeper was still being formed? Let 2–3 people share briefly.

Frame the Night

Leader Script (adapt, don't read): *Initiative Sunday isn't about a program for 2026. It's about who God is forming us to be, together..*

- This year, we're not just asking, "Where are we going?" We're asking, "Who are we becoming as the family of God?"

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scripture focus and discussion

Genesis 12:1-4 - The Call Before Clarity

Read the passage slowly. Invite the group to listen for what God promises to do.

Observation Questions

- What does God ask Abram to leave?
- What does God not tell Abram?
- How many times does God say, "I will"?

Key Insight: God doesn't give Abram a map; He gives him a promise. God forms families on the journey, not after arrival.

Discussion

Who Before Where

Use 3–4 of these questions depending on time and group dynamic.

1. Destination vs Formation

- Where has faith felt more like a destination than a journey?
- How might that limit spiritual growth?

2. Calling Without Clarity

- Abram moves before understanding the outcome.
- Where in your life do you sense God calling you, but clarity hasn't come yet?

3. Family Redefined

- Scripture says "all the families of the earth will be blessed."
- Who belongs in God's family that we sometimes forget?

4. Your Story Matters

- Which of these resonates most with your current season?
 - Waiting
 - Rebuilding
 - Carrying regret
 - Quietly being formed
 - Longing for belonging

Leader Note: Affirm every story. Do not rush to resolution.

The Shift

From Content to Commitment

Leader Script (adapt, don't read): *When Awaken says family, we're not talking about perfection. We're talking about belonging, formation, and mission.*

2026 is a year where God is strengthening:

- Families in the home
- The Family of God
- The global Awaken family

This is not something leadership is doing for the church. This is something we are entering as the church.

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missional living

Purpose: Help the group move from knowing to living together as a family shaped by faith and mission.

How This Becomes Real This Year

Ask the group to discuss:

1. Gather the Family

- What helps you feel safe and welcomed in community?
- What makes it hard?

2. Strengthen the Home

- What kind of support would actually help your household right now?

3. Shared Rhythms

- What rhythms (not events) could shape your faith this year?

4. Mission Together

- What would it look like to live your faith as a family, whatever that looks like for you?

Practice: One Step Together

Ask each person to complete this sentence out loud:

"This year, I want to become a person/family who..."

(Encourage attentive listening without fixing or correcting.)

Weekly Practice

This Week's Practice

Choose one small step toward living more deeply as family this year.

Accountability Rhythm

At the start of the next group, briefly share:

- What step you took
- What you noticed God forming in you

Formation happens over time—one faithful step at a time.

prayer: praying together (10 min)

Leader Guide - Prayer Rhythm

1. **Gratitude:** Thank God for the family of God
2. **Trust** – Pray for courage to step forward without clarity
3. **Unity** - Ask God to form us into one people with one heart

Group Prayer Prompt: "God, shape us into the people You desire us to be. Teach us to walk together in faith, trust, and love."

**STRONG FAMILY.
STRONG CHURCH.
STRONG MISSION.**

final takeaways - carry this week

- **Remember** – God is forming a people, not just assigning a destination.
- **Practice** – Belonging precedes mission.
- **Live Sent** – A formed family becomes a blessing to others.