

God Calls: A People for Blessing



Review: God's call to Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3) marks the beginning of the divine response to man's desire to live independently of his creator, and the problems that resulted - in Eden, the flood and Babel. It starts with a promise to one man, Abraham, and the commitment he makes to God. That promise continues to be real to you and me through faith in Jesus Christ, making us contemporary recipients of God's blessing – and partners in his mission.



Discuss:

- What does God call Abram to do in Genesis 12:1-3? What is his promise to Abram? How would you have felt, in Abram's shoes?
- These days, we tend to use the word 'blessing' for anything that promotes happiness or comfort. Explore together the meaning of God's blessing in this passage. Try to describe the full scope of the blessings mentioned therein. What does this mean for how God connects with you and I today?
- The descendants of Abraham failed to live out God's mission as he had intended, so he sent Jesus Christ to live, die and be resurrected 'so those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith' (Galatians 3:9). What are the implications of this:
 - for all people? (see Galatians 3:28-29)
 - for us today?
 - and, what responsibility does the blessing carry for us – as it did for Abraham?
- How does the above change your perspective on "who you think you are"?



Pray: Give thanks to God that, through faith in Jesus, we are heirs to his promise to Abraham. Give thanks for Abraham's obedience, courage and conviction. Seek that God may provide us with the same qualities, so that we not only receive God's blessings but seek to be a blessing to others – wherever and whoever they may be. Pray that we may find our true identity in Christ.