

## God Calls: A People for Himself



**Review:** So far, we have heard how the world was good, but that man's turning away from God had left relationships between the creator and his world in tatters. God, though, took the initiative in calling Abraham to become 'a great nation' and a blessing to 'all peoples'...Stage 1 of his rescue plan thus begins. In Genesis 17, Abraham hears more from God about how he and his people will be 'set apart' for their special mission.



- How was Abraham to be 'set apart', physically and spiritually? Explore this in Genesis 17:1 and the remainder of the passage up to verse 14. Why was this part of God's plan?
- In our part of the plan, we are called to live in Jesus as Lord (Colossians 2:6-7). Consider the contemporary equivalents of the barriers described in v8, and how we might overcome them.
- What are the consequences of 'living in Jesus as Lord'? Once you have thought about these, review your thoughts in the light of Col 3:12-14. How might we go about 'clothing ourselves' with these virtues?
- Abraham, and through him, his people were to be 'set apart' or consecrated for God. Thinking of being personally 'set apart for God':
  - what does that mean to you?
  - how does it feel?
  - are you ready?



**Pray:** That we might be ready to be apart for God, and used in his mission. That God will help us over the obstacles to making him Lord of our lives. Pray that we will stand firm in the will of God, as may those for whom we "wrestle in prayer" (Col 4:12).