

SERMON NOTES: January 10, 2016

BE ONE I MAKE ONE: WHY BOTHER?

***“GOD’S DESIGN”***

QUESTION: How does God’s promise to Abraham inform His purpose for believers today?

### **Genesis 12:1–3**

**1** The LORD had said to Abram, “Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you.

**2** “I will make you into a great nation

and I will bless you;

I will make your name great,

and you will be a blessing.

**3** I will bless those who bless you,

and whoever curses you I will curse;

and all peoples on earth

will be blessed through you.”

### **GOD IS ON A MISSION**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (cf. Genesis 3:15)

2. \_\_\_\_\_ (cf. Genesis 9:12-17)

3. \_\_\_\_\_ (cf. Genesis 12:1-3)

## **GOD'S PROMISE REVEALS HIS PURPOSE**

1. \_\_\_\_\_: To Know Him and Enjoy Him Forever
2. \_\_\_\_\_: A great Nation, Name, Blessing
3. \_\_\_\_\_: His Kingdom Will Reign

## **GOD'S PROMISE BECOMES OUR MANDATE**

1. God works with and through His people:  
We are \_\_\_\_\_ with God
2. We Are Blessed \_\_\_\_\_ to Be a Blessing:  
spiritually, relationally, physically, economically,  
environmentally. (cf. Gen 1: 22,28)
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_ (cf. Land, Seed, Blessing)
    - i. Relational: Peace with God, peace of God,
    - ii. Material and Social:
    - iii. God's Presence
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ (cf. Genesis 41:56-57)
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_ (cf. Galatians 3:29)
3. God's Blessing is not \_\_\_\_\_ to God's people
4. Blessing is not to be \_\_\_\_\_ as a  
"Prosperity Gospel"

CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION: January 10, 2016

**BE ONE | MAKE ONE: WHY BOTHER?**

Genesis 12:1-3, "God's *Design*"

### **OPENING**

Read Genesis 12:1-3 carefully. Draw a circle around the different expressions of purpose or outcome beyond Abraham's life. Underline the command(s). Double underline the different parts which are explicitly a promise to Abraham.

### **GOING DEEPER**

What do we learn about God purpose when we consider the Fall, the Flood and the Tower of Babel?

What three aspects of God's purpose surrounds the covenant He made with Abraham?

How does God's promise to Abraham provide believers today a mandate to follow in the steps of Abraham?

### **CHALLENGE**

*"It's important to note that in many parts of the world blessing is commonly thought of as a magical force or a mystical power by which someone can obtain desired benefits. In this mentality, blessing is not much more than luck or fortune that can sometimes be manipulated with procedures or by people believed to have special powers. Advocates of the so-called "prosperity gospel" may have more in common with this worldview which reduces blessing to a method of obtaining wealth from God."*<sup>1</sup> **How does God's stated purpose to "bless others" confront a "prosperity gospel" mentality?**

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<sup>1</sup> Winter, Ralph; Hawthorne, Steven (2014-08-28). Perspectives on the World Christian Movement: Reader and Study Guide - eBook (Kindle Locations 6379-6380). William Carey Library. Kindle Edition.