

Origins #6
A Land I Will Show You
February 18, 2024

- **What is the farthest you have moved from where you grew up?**

We hear the Bible differently and beautifully when it is read in a community of people. As a group, read Genesis 12:1-8.

Today we finish up our journey through the beginning of Genesis.

- **What is something from this series that has stood out to you?**

Genesis 12:1-3

"The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to **the land I will show you**. "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. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse, and **all peoples on earth will be blessed through you**."

- **Why do you think God didn't tell Abram up front where he would be going?**
- **Why do you think God didn't extend the invitation to the entire family, Abram's father and brothers included?**
- **In what ways can you relate to Abram's calling?**

God is creating a people at the center of the world to bless all nations. He does not choose an already existing people, but He creates a new one. He picks an unlikely choice in an idol-worshipping, immigrant barren couple. The Biblical story is going to follow Abram's family and their purpose. The Old Testament will focus on Israel as a nation, and her rise and eventual fall. The New Testament tells us how, out of the remnant of Israel, God will reform his people as the church. The church centers on Jesus and His death, resurrection, and ascension. As the Messiah and fulfillment of Israel, Jesus is making everything new. He ascends as Lord having reclaimed all authority on earth and heaven. **This is the good news. The Gospel. Jesus is Lord over everything.** The church is those who embody where all of creation is headed.

Matthew 28:19

Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations...

Acts 1:8

...you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

- **In these two verses, what are we called to do?**
- **How are we going to do it?**
- **After this series, how would you answer the question, What is the ultimate mission of God?**

"The only hermeneutic of the gospel is a congregation of men and women who believe it and live by it."

Lesslie Newbigin

The American church has focused on what Newbigin called secondary. Strategies, campaigns, media, marketing, sermons, books, etc. but when the church was at its best, its focus was embodied living.

- **How do you see us focused on secondary things?**
- **What would it look like to focus on embodied living?**

PRAY FOR YOURSELF AND YOUR GROUP

How does this message lead you to pray?

PRAY FOR OUR OUTREACH PARTNERS

Pray for FCCHB local outreach partner, Project Hope Alliance, as they care for students experiencing homelessness at Huntington Beach High School. Pray for the students' resiliency and supportive care.