

Blessed to be a Blessing – October 11th, 2009

Big Idea: Whether we realize it or not, we have all been blessed. There is a purpose for this blessing – to bless others.

In Review: Right after the flood God commissioned Noah and his family to “...*be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.*” (Genesis 9:1b ESV) Unfortunately, mankind had other plans and needed some “encouragement” at the Tower of Babel. (Genesis 11:1-9) Before we go forward, we need to look back...

Noah Blesses Shem (Genesis 9:20-28)

Noah was caught in an embarrassing situation by his son, Ham. Shem – rather than joining in on the fun – chooses to honour his father and receives a thorough blessing as a result. Abram (later renamed Abraham) is a descendant of Shem.

1. **God Chooses Who He Blesses AND How He Will Bless Them:**

A brief history of Abram & Sarai.

- a. The Call of Abram (Genesis 12:1-3)
- b. The Promise of Canaan Land (Genesis 12:7)
- c. A Beautiful Wife (Genesis 12:10-11)
- d. Abram Blessed Despite Deception (Genesis 12:17-20)
- e. The Promise of Offspring & Prosperity (Genesis 13:14-17)
- f. Abram Blessed by Melchizedek (Genesis 14:19-20)
- g. God’s Covenant with Abram (Genesis 15:1)
- h. Prophetic Blessing on Abram’s Offspring (Genesis 15:13)
- i. God’s Promise of Descendants (Genesis 17:4-8)* details of covenant follow
- j. Isaac’s Birth Promised (Genesis 17:16)
- k. Abraham Intercedes on Behalf of Sodom (Genesis 18:22-33)
- l. Did I mention that Sarah was Beautiful? (Genesis 20:2)
- m. Abraham Blessed with Land Despite Deception (Genesis 20:14-16)
- n. Abraham Blessed After Faithfulness with Isaac (Genesis 22:17-18)

2. **Ways We Are Blessed**

- a. Children/Family
- b. Friends
- c. Things

3. **Ways We Can Bless**

- a. Treasure our children and our family
- b. Love – with “no strings attached”
- c. Be a river... not a swamp

Conclusion

We are blessed in order that we might be a blessing. Genesis (12:2)