

The Call

Scripture:

Genesis 12:1-3 "Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. ² I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

I. The Call

A. The call comes from God.

John 15:16 "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you."

B. You don't have to be part of the world's elite.

I Corinthians 1:27-29 "But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; ²⁸and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, ²⁹that no flesh should glory in His presence."

C. It's a call to separation.

Psalms 1:1-2 "Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; ² But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night."

1. Choices of companionship determine our outcome.

Proverbs 13:20 "He who walks with wise men will be wise, But the companion of fools will be destroyed."

2. The world is not our friend.

John 15:18-19 "If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. ¹⁹ If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you."

D. It's a call to obedience.

1. Obedience is the price of success.

Joshua 1:8 "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success."

2. Obedience is the most important duty of a believer's life.

Acts 5:29 "But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men."

II. God gives promises to the called.

A. God is able to fulfill His promises.

Romans 4:19-22 "And not being weak in faith, he did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰ He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, ²¹ and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. ²² And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness."

- B. His promises bring positive affirmation into our lives.
II Corinthians 1:20 *"For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us."*
- C. We have the promise of His abiding presence.
John 14:23 *"Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him."*

III. Blessings come upon those who answer the call.

- A. The blessings are abundant.
Amos 9:13 *"Behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "When the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him who sows seed; the mountains shall drip with sweet wine, and all the hills shall flow with it."*
- B. The blessings are even above what we could think to ask for.
Ephesians 3:20-21 *"Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, ²¹to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."*
- C. All our need is supplied by the blessing of the Lord.
Philippians 4:19 *"And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."*
- D. The blessing of Abraham was a seven-fold blessing.
1. I will make you a great nation.
 2. I will bless you.
 3. I will make your name great.
 4. You will be a blessing.
 5. I will bless them that bless you.
 6. I will curse them that curse you.
 7. In you shall all the families of the earth be blessed.
- E. We are Abraham's seed.
Galatians 3:26-29 *"For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."*

IV. Are you ready to obey the call?

Genesis 12:4a *"So Abram departed as the LORD had spoken to him."*