

# **FAITH IN THE BLESSING**

Genesis 12:1 – 2; John 1 May 28, 2023 Jon Field, Lead Pastor

# **MESSAGE NOTES**

"You cannot stay where you are and go with God." — Henry Blackaby

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. "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 ..." — Genesis 12:1 – 2 (NIV)

### Biblical Pattern for the Blessed: Leave, Go, Bless

The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!" When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" They said, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" "Come," he replied, "and you will see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and spent that day with him. It was about the tenth hour. — John 1:35 – 39 (NIV)

The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus ... — John 1:41 – 42 (NIV)

We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ. — 1 John 1:3 (NIV)

#### Powerful Pathways for Blessing:

- Pray for people
- ... because our gospel came to you not only in Word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction ...
  1 Thessalonians 1:5
- Share Christ's message through our story

For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at His coming? Is it not you? For you are our glory and joy. — 1 Thessalonians 2:19-20 (ESV)

• Join a short term missions opportunity and serve others



# **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- Discussion Starter: Share with your group the farthest place you have been away from home and what you experienced there.
- If "Leave, Go, Bless" is a Biblical pattern in following Christ, what does that look like in our everyday life?
- What was your biggest take away from the message this week?
- Henry Blackaby once said, "You cannot stay where you are and go with God." Share how that quote applies to following Christ and what that might mean for your life right now.
- Read John 1:41 42. Andrew left a good thing (his current life) for the best thing (Christ). How might such a principle be expressed today?
- Read 1 Thessalonians 2:18 20. Explain what Paul was telling the Thessalonians and why that is important for us.
- Read Genesis 12:1 2. If God were sending you somewhere in life right now to be a blessing, where do you think it is and why?
- Close by praying for some of our Global Partners. You can look many of them up by name at ENCOUNTERLIFE. ORG under the resources tab. (https://encounterlife.org/global-partners/)
- Read Ephesians 5:25 27. What is so powerful about Christ's sacrificial love for the church? What does it look like for a husband to love, cherish, and nourish his wife and vise-versa?
- Honor is a powerful force in any relationship. Why is honor important mutually in our relationship with Christ? Why are honor and respect so powerful in a marriage relationship?

