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Central Congregational Church
"For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors"
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Blessed to Be a Blessing

Genesis 12:1-9

Series: Genesis – The Story of Us All

The Story of Us All

- ❖ The Bible in general, and Genesis in particular, presents a unique and universal worldview.
- ❖ The worldview presented in the scriptures is dependent on revelation rather than discovery.
- ❖ The Bible in its entirety, including Genesis, is about God's redemption of mankind and the renewal of all things in Christ.

Luke 24:27 (ESV) — 27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. (See also, John 5:39-40; Acts 8:26-35)

Central Passage

Genesis 12:1-4 (ESV) — 1 Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." 4 So Abram went, as the LORD had told him...

- ❖ God chose (elected) Abraham - God is always the initiator in saving work in this world.

John 15:16 (ESV) — 16 You did not choose me, but I chose you...

- ❖ God called Abraham to go – Jesus calls his disciples to the same faithful, costly obedience for the sake of the kingdom of God.

Matthew 16:24 (ESV) — 24 Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. (See also, Matthew 19:27-30; Luke 9:57-62)

- ❖ God promised to bless Abraham and make him a blessing...

Central Thought: In Christ Jesus, the saving "seed" of Abraham, we too are chosen and called to follow the Lord in faithful obedience that we might be the bearer of God's salvation blessings to our neighbors and the nations.

John 15:16 (ESV) — 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 abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.

Ephesians 1:3-14 (ESV) — 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, 4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love 5 he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8 which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight 9 making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. 11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, 12 so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. 13 In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.