

Week of 02-05-2023
Series: The Story, Ch. 2, Pt. 2
Sermon: Go and Be a Blessing
Text: Genesis 12-15

Sermon Outline:

Biblical Truth: God's covenant plans work through a covenant people.

1. A people who go. (12:1)
2. A people who are a blessing. (12:2-3)
3. A people who believe. (15:6)

Discussion Questions:

Read Genesis 12:1-4 & 15:1-6.

1. God called Abraham to go and He has called us to let go of our old life (Luke 9:23-25) and also go (Matthew 28:18). Sometimes the "going" could be a change in location, vocation, time-allocation, or simply to have a gospel-conversation.
 - If you are a Christian, what did you leave behind when you received Christ as Savior and Lord?
 - If applicable, since becoming a Christian, where are various places God has called you to go?
 - Hebrews 11:8 says that Abraham "went out, not knowing where he was going." How does this relate with how one becomes a Christian and lives as a Christian?
2. Every app on your phone, every streaming service on your TV, every "custom offer" in your mailbox, everything in your world is laser focused on you. And this is dangerous to your soul, because it warps your view, not only of yourself, but of God. God didn't create the world for you. It's for Him. God isn't redeeming the world for your glory. It's for His glory. And God has called us to go in order to bless others.

This is a fundamental shift in perspective, as this gets your eyes off of you and onto the people around you.

Instead of leveraging other people to achieve your goals, you start to look for how to leverage your gifts to bless others.

Instead of trying to keep up with others, you can rejoice when others succeed.

Instead of evaluating your life—or even judging God— based on your health, your wealth, your happiness, your comfort, or your popularity, you begin to think about how to leverage what God has given you to bless others.

 - Why might this counter culture shift in thinking (to bless others) be so hard to do?
 - How does making this shift end up blessing you more than the return you get for just focusing on yourself?
3. In John 6:28, Jesus was asked: "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" Jesus responded in v29: "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."
 - Why and how is believing in Christ the only thing that "works" for our righteousness and God's will/mission?