

"BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING!"

Pastor Mark Johnson

INTRO: Does God want to bless you? If so, why and how? What has to change for God to bless you more?

I. WHAT WERE THE BLESSINGS OF ABRAHAM? (Gen. 12:1-3)

"I will make you a great nation; ... I will bless you ... I will... make your name great; ... I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse those who curse you; ..."

II. WHY? "And you shall be a blessing." "And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." God wanted to bless Abraham so he would bless others!

III. HOW?

- 1. Be willing to forsake your familiar culture. "Get out of your country, ..."
- 2. Be willing to put God ahead of your family of origin. "Get out ... from your family And from your father's house,"
- Be willing to walk by faith. "To a land I will show you."

IV. THE FAITH OF ABRAHAM (Gen. 15:1-6).

- 1. They were getting beyond child-bearing age with no kids.
- 2. They couldn't make the promise happen in the natural.
- 3. Abraham had to trust God to bring it to pass (Gen. 15:1-6).

V. DON'T PLAY THE VICTIM CARD!

- 1. Abraham didn't play the victim card but believed God.
- 2. You can be the victim or the victor, but not both.
- 3. Playing the victim card is a self-fulfilling prophesy.
- 4. Playing the victim card is blaming others for your problems while looking to others as your source.
- 5. Responsibility the ability to choose your response!
 - A. Who you'll trust, your attitude, perspective & actions.
 - B. Feel-Act-Think vs. Feel-Think-Act
- 6. You can live out of a Victim or Choice Perspective.
 - A. Life acts on you or you act on life [reactive or proactive].
 - B. Excusing why you're not blessed vs. being a blessing.
- 7. 1Thess. 4:9-12; 1Tim. 5:8; Eph. 4:28; 2Thess. 3:10

VI. YOU ARE A SON OF ABRAHAM (Gal. 3:6-9, 29) by faith!

VII. GENERATIONAL BLESSINGS PASSED DOWN (Gen. 28:13-14).

CONCLUSION: God wants to bless you to be a blessing!