



MISSION MINDED



SESSION 2
Purpose in the Promise



Mission Minded #2: Purpose in the Promise

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WATCH

Click play above or on the link below

https://youtu.be/_nv-hB8DSgA

THINK

Have you ever
broken a promise?
Has someone ever
broken a promise
they made to you?

The promise God makes Abram is the foundation of God's actions throughout all of Scripture. In just a few short verses, we gain incredible insight into the very heart of God. This promise reveals much about God's purpose, priorities and plan to see the world set free of sin.

Read Genesis 12:1-3. In what three ways does God say He will bless Abram?

He will make Abram into a great nation, He will make Abram's name great, He will bless those who bless Abram and curse those who dishonour Abram.

Why has God blessed Abram?

Abram is blessed to be a blessing, through him all nations of earth will be blessed.

Read Galatians 3:7-9. How does it connect the promise to Abram with the gospel? As a "son of Abraham," how can we see all the nations blessed?

"In you all nations will be blessed" is described as a preaching of the gospel. The gospel is how this promise will be fulfilled. It is for all people. As spiritual sons of Abram, we are to see the nations blessed through us through the advancement of this gospel.

The promise God makes to Abraham is truly awesome. Abram is to be made into a great nation and his name made great. Blessing upon blessing will be lavished upon Abram.

Why? So all the nations on the earth will be blessed through him. God is beginning with this one man, but eventually, all people will know this blessing.

Read Genesis 17:5-6. Why is Abram's name changed by God to Abraham? How is God's previous promise further defined here?

He is called Abraham as he will be father to a multitude of nations. Previously, he was to be made into a great nation, now many will come from him, including kings. All kinds of people will become part of Abraham's family.

Read Genesis 22:15-18. How great will Abraham's descendants become?

Abraham's descendants will be multiplied to be as stars in the sky or sand on the seashore.

Read Galatians 3:29. In what way does God fulfil His promise to make Abraham father to a multitude of nations? How can any person, of any nationality, join Abraham's family?

If you are Christ's, then you are also Abraham's offspring.

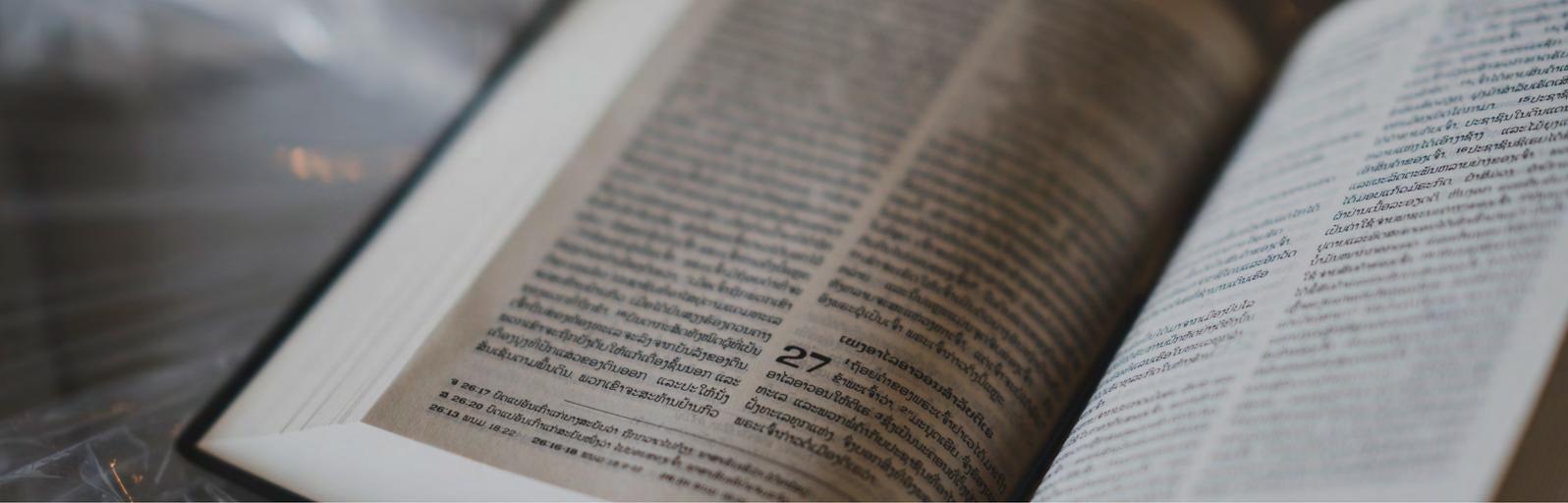
REFLECT

What does it mean to you, to be one of Abraham's spiritual descendants?

Abraham is to become father to a multitude of nations. The blessing God bestows upon him will carry on to his descendants and to all nations.

How? Paul reveals in the New Testament that all who are in Christ, are spiritual descendants of Abraham. We share in the blessing God made to him in Genesis 12. People from all nations can be blessed if they join this family through faith in Christ.

God is going to achieve His purpose of bring glory to Himself through making His name known by blessing Abraham and His descendants.



ASIA FOCUS

Each session of Mission Minded focuses on an area of ministry in Asia supported by our parent organisation, AsiaLink. Please take this opportunity to expand your knowledge and practise prayer for Gospel ministry in Asia.

DISTRIBUTING BIBLES

The Bible is full of promises from God. He promises never to leave us or forsake us (Heb 13:5). He promises to supply our every need (Phil 4:19). Most significantly, He promises through His Son that all who believe in Jesus will have eternal life and not pass into judgement (John 5:24).

Unfortunately, many in Asia don't know these promises. In many parts of Asia, the Bible is a very difficult book to get a hold of. Across the continent, many lands have severe restrictions in place preventing the printing and distribution of God's Word. Those caught trying to do so face legal prosecution. William Townsend once said, "The greatest missionary is the Bible in the mother tongue." There is no more powerful resource than God's Word to change lives for His glory.

Through various partners and short-term teams, AsiaLink are committed to providing Bibles to people in places like the Middle East, South-East Asia and China. Often these Bibles go to Christians who have waited decades to receive one they can read and understand.

In Myanmar, one lady named Naw waited 77 years for a Bible:

"I accepted Christ when I was 15 years old, but we never had a Bible. Because of the fighting here, I have had to move out of 11 villages during my life. We lost everything each time, but God never forgot my prayers to have my own Bible. I thank the Lord that he has answered my 77 years of prayer for a Bible. Today is by far the happiest day in my life!"

HOW TO PRAY

Pray for others like Naw, that the Lord would be near to them and bring His Word to them.

Pray for those distributing Bibles in places where it is illegal. May the Lord protect as they carry out their work.

Pray for those countries across Asia that have restrictions against the Bible in place would relax these laws.

