

# GOD'S HEART FOR THE NATIONS

## God's Heart for the Nations

### Key idea:

The entire Bible reveals God's heart for the nations to come to Him, and His people are called to love all nations and cultures and labor to take the Gospel to them.

### Key text:

Genesis 12:1–3

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. <sup>2</sup> "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. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

### Key points:

1. God's covenant with Abraham promised great blessings and called Abraham to pass those blessings on to all nations.
2. The key blessing promised and given to Abraham is the Gospel itself.
3. The desire of God for all nations to turn to Him is revealed in the entire Bible - the Law, Psalms, prophets, Gospels, Epistles, and Revelation. From beginning to end, God is calling His people to love all nations by taking the Gospel to them.

### Questions for discussion/application:

1. What part of Sunday's teaching stood out most to you? Why?
2. Why is it important for me to understand God's heart to bless me as His covenant child?
3. Why is it critical to remember that the purpose of blessing is so that I might spread God's blessing to others rather than hoard it? What dangers lurk if I do not keep this foremost in my mind as God blesses me?

4. Am I surprised to see that Paul sees the blessing promised in Genesis 12:3 to be the Gospel (see Galatians 3:8-9)? What does this teach me about how to read Scripture?
5. When I read the Old Testament do I see God's heart for the nations, or do I think of it as being about the nation of Israel?
6. What is the relationship between the covenant with Abraham in Genesis 12:1-3 and the Great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20?
7. How often do I pray for God's work in other nations? Do I pray for the BRCC Missionary of the Month each day during the month? If not, how can I make this part of my daily routine?
8. Have I ever considered if God might be calling me to serve as a missionary to another nation?
9. How can I be part of fulfilling the Great Commission without even leaving Maryland?
10. Who will I call or see to encourage this week? Who can I encourage to worship this King this coming Sunday?

**Further Resources:**

The [BRCC missions page](#) gives information about the various missionaries we support, and has links to their websites when available.