

## The Promise

### Part 2: The Blessing

December 4, 2022

*Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father's family, and go to the land that I will show you. I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who treat you with contempt. All the families on earth will be blessed through you.*

*(Genesis 12:1–3, New Living Translation)*

## THREE REQUIREMENTS FOR GOD'S BLESSING

### 1. God's blessing requires faith.

*It is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.*

*(Hebrews 11:6, NLT)*

*Is anything too hard for the Lord? I will return about this time next year, and Sarah will have a son.*

*(Genesis 18:14, NLT)*

### 2. God's blessing requires sacrifice.

*Some time later, God tested Abraham's faith. "Abraham!" God called. "Yes," he replied. "Here I am." "Take your son, your only son—yes, Isaac, whom you love so much—and go to the land of Moriah. Go and sacrifice him as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will show you."*

*(Genesis 22:1–2, NLT)*

*God will provide a sheep for the burnt offering, my son.*

*(Genesis 22:8, NLT)*

*God had told him, "Isaac is the son through whom your descendants will be counted." Abraham reasoned that if Isaac died, God was able to bring him back to life again.*

*(Hebrews 11:18–19, NLT)*

### 3. God's blessing requires obedience.

*Then Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught by its horns in a thicket. So he took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering in place of his son. Abraham named the place Yahweh-Yireh (which means "the LORD will provide").*

*(Genesis 22:13–14, NLT)*

*"I know the plans I have for you," says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope."*

*(Jeremiah 29:11, NLT)*

*All the nations of the earth will be blessed by your offspring because you have obeyed My command.*

*(Genesis 22:18, Holman Christian Standard Bible)*

*"Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem."*

*(Luke 2:10–11, NLT)*

*For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.*

*(John 3:16, NLT)*

## HOW DO WE RECEIVE GOD'S PROMISE OF BLESSING THIS CHRISTMAS?

### 1) Choose to be a blessing.

*The LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;  
the LORD turn his face toward you  
and give you peace.*

*(Numbers 6:24–26, New International Version)*

### 2) Share the blessing with your world!

*Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone.*

*(Mark 16:15, NLT)*

### 3) Put your faith in Christ.

*All who put their faith in Christ share the same blessing Abraham received because of his faith.*

*(Galatians 3:9, NLT)*

**BCF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:  
Sunday, December 18th at 4PM — Worship Center  
Topics include: Adoption of 2023 Ministry Plan**