



LIFE GROUP SERMON NOTES

“We Are Family: You Have An Inheritance”

Dr. Rice Broocks - August 30, 2015 (Every Nation Founders Day)

WARM-UP (10-15 minutes)

Choose a question below to answer, or ask another. *No right or wrong answers.*

- Do you have any friends who were born in another country? If so, what is interesting about them?
- Have you ever experienced an awkward cross-cultural moment? Briefly describe it.
- If you could travel to another country, which one would it be? Why?

WORD (10-15 minutes)

Sermons can be heard online at <http://www.bethelworld.org>

Genesis 12:1-3 (ESV) *Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”*

Galatians 3:6-9 (ESV) *(J)ust as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness...” Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.” So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.*

Galatians 3:29 (ESV) *And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to promise.”*

God has promised that the blessings given to Abraham belong to all who are in Christ, for all the promises of God are "yes, and amen" in Christ. It has always been God's intention to redeem people from every nation around the world. God promised to bless the nations of the world through Abraham. That promise has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ, who is Abraham's descendant. Jesus took the sins of the world upon himself when he died on the cross. Everyone who turns from their sin to follow God and trusts in Jesus Christ just as Abraham trusted God also receives God's promise of blessings to Abraham. If we will believe and trust God, he will give us an inheritance among the nations. People of different ethnicities and cultures and nations will come to Christ through us, if we will embrace God's promise as our own and give ourselves to spreading the Gospel.

We must beware that we do not forfeit our spiritual birthright, like Esau, the brother of Jacob. Esau sold his birthright for a meal when he was famished. It was a temporary pleasure. Sin can likewise bring temporary pleasure, but it will cause us to forfeit our inheritance if we continue in sin and do not turn from it to serve God with our whole hearts. Turn from sin and receive God's inheritance in Christ!

Mark 11:17 (ESV) *And (Jesus) was teaching them and saying to them, “Is it not written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations’? But you have made it a den of robbers.”*

Psalms 2:7-9 (ESV) *I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”*

God wants us to pray for the nations. His desire is to give us a share in the inheritance of his Son, the Lord Jesus. Jesus has purchased people from nation and tongue and tribe for God. God has ordained that we will reign with him both now and in the future when Christ returns to the earth to rule it in righteousness. At that time he destroy all who do evil and will remove all evil from his kingdom.

At the present time we are called to advance his kingdom through the preaching and demonstration of the Gospel. To this end we are commanded to pray, so that people from every nation might enter his kingdom. Furthermore, God wants to bring this about through each of us, so that we are directly involved in bringing people from other ethnicities and nations into a relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

Revelation 5:9-10 (ESV) And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."

Matthew 28:18-20 (ESV) And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Revelation 7:9 (ESV) After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

We are commanded to go into all the world and preach the good news about God's reconciliation and kingdom brought through Jesus Christ, and to make disciples of all nations. We are commanded to do this because Christ has already purchased people from all the nations. We can go and do this in confidence that our labor will not be in vain, because God has already revealed that there will be people from every nation and all tribes, peoples, and languages who will respond and turn to God. Our inheritance is guaranteed by God himself. We cannot fail, if we believe and obey. The Almighty One who knows the end from the beginning has guaranteed it himself.

PERSONAL APPLICATION (10-15 minutes)

Choose an item below to discuss, or introduce another related topic for discussion.

- Do you understand and believe that God has promised you an inheritance among the nations? What does this mean for you?
- Do you pray for the Gospel to advance among internationals or a foreign nation? If so, which?
- Have you ever gone on a foreign missions trip? Would you like to go on one? When & where?

PRAYER (10-15 minutes)

Pray for any of the following, as well as any other requests you may have.

- Pray that God would open your eyes and increase your faith regarding his promise to bless the nations through you.
- Pray that God will guide you to internationals and give you opportunities to befriend them, serve them, and communicate to them about Jesus. Pray that God will give you wisdom to know how to relate to them in a respectful and meaningful manner.
- Pray that God will stir you to go on a missions trip, that he will open the door and provide the funds to go, that he will anoint you and use you to advance the kingdom of God in a foreign country.