

## *Empowered to Bless*

### *Gen. 12:1-3*

In Gen. 12:1-3, God singles out one man, Abram, and clarifies that His plans for the world would be accomplished specifically through Abram and his offspring. God said to Abram that he and his family line would serve as the \_\_\_\_\_ through which the blessings of God would \_\_\_\_\_ to the world. Abram would receive the blessings of God in abundance. But the blessings of God would not stop with them. Rather, they would be the conduit through which God's blessings would flow to the rest of the world.

Many people think of blessing or being blessed only in terms of \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ or feeling happy. But the Bible says, a person with these things may not necessarily be in a state of being blessed by God. People who think of God's blessings as health or prosperity or things all going right become \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ from God when things don't go as they hoped.

God blessed Abram with a great family and great name in order that he might \_\_\_\_\_ and Jesus taught that we are blessed when we are poor or mourn or are insulted and persecuted so that we might \_\_\_\_\_.

What we learn is that to be blessed is to be \_\_\_\_\_ to fulfill God's purpose for you so that you can contribute to His ultimate, \_\_\_\_\_. True blessedness from God doesn't happen until we use what He has given us to \_\_\_\_\_— to fulfill His purposes in the world.

If we see the things God gives us as His blessings and just stuff them in our \_\_\_\_\_ for our own benefit, the very things we call blessings may be the very things that lead to our \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus provided the ultimate example of the blessed life. He \_\_\_\_\_ so that the world through Him might be saved.

Do you want to live a blessed life? See whatever God has given you as \_\_\_\_\_ and contribute to His ultimate, kingdom purposes.