

God Calls Us Into Covenant

Confirmation Session 6 - February 28, 2010

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Review:

God created the world and pronounced it good. God intended love of God and love of neighbor.

Sin entered the world, and humanity disobeyed God. Adam and Eve ignored God, and Cain murdered his brother Abel.

Because God was sad, God sought to restore humanity. First God flooded the world, sparing Noah and his family, but sin remained.

In this lesson we look at what God did next.

Session 6:

Read Genesis 12:1-3 (New Revised Standard Version)

1. God called Abram and sought to assemble a group of people who would be a faithful witness to God's way in the world. God promised Abram three things.
 - A. I will make of you a G_____ N_____.
 - B. I will bless you.
 - C. I will make your name great, so that you will be a B_____.
2. Abram and Sarai left their home in Ur to go to the land of Canaan. Today, we know Canaan as the land of Israel. In Genesis 13:14-17, God enlarged his promise to Abram and Sarai. In addition to everything God already promised to give Abram, Sarai and their descendants lots of land. We call this land the *Promised Land*.
3. Just as Abram and Sarai had a covenant with God, we too are people of the covenant. A covenant is an agreement between two people or between God and God's people based on promises made to one another. Our covenant with God is that God will be our god, and we will be God's people. God promises to love us, and we promise to love God and to live according to God's ways.
4. What can we learn from these Bible stories?
 - A. God is faithful and wants to be our god even when we disobey God.
 - B. Humans tend to sin and turn away from God.
 - C. God seeks us even when we sin so that God can bring all people into a loving relationship with God and one another.
 - D. God wants us to live as people of the covenant, loving God and living according to God's ways. When we live according to God's ways we are a blessing to other people. God blesses us to be a blessing to others.