

## Questions for Sunday, March 8

Note to Leaders: Every group is unique and therefore if a question in the group is not helpful, feel free to move to the next one. Each group should spend some time going over the personal reflection section as well.

### Personal Reflection:

1. Have you ever been a part of something that was better/worse than you expected spiritually?

### Personal Study:

1. Read Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
  - a. Abraham began with faith that God was who he said he was. That faith moved him to action.
    - i. Can you imagine leaving all you know on faith?
    - ii. How should the life of Jesus: impact our faith? Our action?
2. Read Genesis 12:1-3, 15:6
  - a. Why is it important to know ALL people were to be blessed through God
  - b. What might happen if we remembered that God came for all people?

### Personal Application:

1. What might be the part of your life that causes you to have the least amount of faith?
2. Is there an area of your life that you know you have not trusted God with that area?
3. Is there a part of you that tries to “earn” God’s love?

### Personal Prayer:

Father, thank you for the way you call all people to be your people! Help me to see all people as people that need to receive your love and to recognize I am the person you are calling to give that love. Help me to respond in love in all situations, especially when it is hard. Thank you for your grace and may I give grace. In Jesus’ name I pray, Amen.

### Group Conversation

#### Group Reflection:

1. Have you ever been a part of something that was better/worse than you expected? If so explain.
2. Thinking about Abraham, what does it mean to be a blessing to others?
3. How can we make sure we live as people who are “Christians who happen to live in America” versus “Americans who happen to be Christians”?

#### Group Study:

1. Read Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
  - a. What do you think it means to respond in loving obedience, rather than obligation?

- b. What can make it difficult to have faith? Why?
  - c. Can we have faith without action?
- 2. Read Genesis 12:1-3, 15:6
  - a. Can you imagine leaving all you know in faith because you believe God is calling you? Have you ever done that?
  - b. Thinking about 15:6, why might we be able to live radically different if we believed that God saw our faith as righteous? In other words, why might we be able to live different culturally because we know we are in right relationship with God and others?

Group Application:

1. How can we bless one another?
2. How can we, as a group, be a blessing to others?

Further Learning Opportunity:

- Radical: David Platt
- Resident Aliens: Stanley Hauerwas and William Willimon

Serving Opportunity:

- What are some ways we can be a blessing to others?

Personal Spiritual Practice:

- Generosity is one of the most difficult spiritual practices. Spend time listening to where God may be calling you to generosity beyond where you are today. Find an opportunity to be generous in some way beyond your normal way of living.