

INTRODUCTION

From the beginning God chose His people to be the conduit of His grace to a broken world. God created all of us in His image; therefore, as image-bearers, we all have value. Satan attacked this image, distorting it, and sin entered the world, bringing with it pain, despair, hopelessness, and brokenness. But piece by piece, God pursues the broken. And when Christ-followers reflect the image of a loving, gracious God to those who are broken, we become a conduit of His grace into their lives. You are God's PLAN A for showing grace to broken people.

SCRIPTURE

¹The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. ²I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Genesis 12:1-3

GROUP QUESTIONS

1. What was the most valuable thing you have ever broken? Were you able to mend it?
2. Read Genesis 12:1-3. What promises does God make to Abraham?
3. Read Galatians 3:7-9. Ultimately, how were "*all peoples on earth*" blessed through Abraham?
4. There is a Sunday school song with these lyrics: "*Father Abraham had many sons, many sons had Father Abraham, I am one of them, and so are you, so let's all praise the Lord...*" Galatians 3 says that as a Christ-follower, you are a son or daughter of Abraham, and a recipient of the blessing in Genesis 12. And not just a recipient...as Abraham's child, the world will be blessed through you. What impact does this have for how you view our broken world?
5. Satan continues to create brokenness by distorting the image of God in the same way he did in the Garden of Eden: "*Did God really say....?*" (Genesis 3:1). Discuss with your group some of the ways he seeks to do this now.
6. Read Matthew 25:34-40. God's PLAN A is to work through His people. As Joe mentioned in his sermon, there is no PLAN B. What can you do to be a part of God's PLAN A to minister "*to the least of these*"?

APPLICATION

“Grace is the glue that binds the broken.”

Consider ways that you can be a conduit of God’s grace to a broken world. Make a list of all the things that come to mind – random acts of kindness, supporting an orphan, caring for a widow, going on a mission trip, sharing your story with someone who doesn’t know Christ, etc. Allow the Spirit to lead you to pick at least one of these things to do this week.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. There are numerous covenants (agreements) mentioned in Scripture. Read through the passages below, and note what was promised through these covenants:

COVENANT	SCRIPTURE	PROMISES
Adamic	Genesis 3:15-19	
Noahic	Genesis 9:8-11	
Abrahamic	Genesis 12:1-3	
Mosaic	Deuteronomy 11	
Davidic	2 Samuel 7:8-16	
New	Jeremiah 31:31-34	

2. Read Hebrews 8:7-13, which quotes from Jeremiah 31. List the demands of the old covenant and the benefits of the new covenant.
3. The author states that God *“has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and outdated will soon disappear.”* Why will the old covenant disappear?
4. What impact does this new covenant have on you?