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2  Our Vision and Mission

3  Centripetal Missions Model

4  Review

- God's purpose for Israel was to become His Treasured Possession and act as "priest" between Himself and the rest of the world. (Exodus 19:5-6)
- They were to accomplish this by carefully following all of God's laws, decrees, and statutes. Then the nations would come to Israel and seek their God.
- As an obedient son, Jesus succeeded where Israel failed and redeemed for God a remnant of new people called the Church or Ekklesia.
- This Church would be that "light of the world" and "a city on a hill that cannot be hidden," if they as believers would become Jesus' disciples.

5  The Call of Abraham

- The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I 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 NIV)

6  The Call of Abraham

- Abraham will be a great nation.
- Abraham will be a blessed great nation.
- Abraham will be the means through which the Nations are blessed.
 - Those who bless Abraham will be blessed.
 - Those who curse Abraham will be cursed.

7  God's Instruction to Abram

- Gen. 17:1 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty; walk before me and be blameless. 2 I will confirm my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers."
- Gen. 22:16 and said, "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, 17 I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, 18 and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me."

8  God's Fulfillment

- At that time Abimelech and Phicol the commander of his forces said to Abraham, "God is with you in everything you do. Now swear to me here before God that you will not deal falsely with me or my children or my descendants. (Genesis 21:22-23 NIV)

- So he said, “I am Abraham’s servant. The LORD has blessed my master abundantly, and he has become wealthy. He has given him sheep and cattle, silver and gold, menservants and maidservants, and camels and donkeys. (Genesis 24:34–35 NIV)

9 God’s Fulfillment

- Isaac planted crops in that land and the same year reaped a hundredfold, because the LORD blessed him. The man became rich, and his wealth continued to grow until he became very wealthy. He had so many flocks and herds and servants that the Philistines envied him. (Genesis 26:12–14 NIV)
- Then Abimelech said to Isaac, “Move away from us; you have become too powerful for us.” (Genesis 26:16 NIV)

10 Summary

- The Universal significance of God’s promise to Abraham is the idea that Abraham and his posterity would attract the attention of the nations by being blessed of God.
- In other words, the purpose of election is a service to the nations by becoming the object of God’s blessing or manifest presence—so that others nations would be motivated to seek the God of Abraham who blesses.
- It is a plan of salvation that is uniquely qualified to work cross-culturally since blessings are a need that all people have in common.
- Nevertheless, it is a calling that is fulfilled by obedience to God motivated by faith.

11 Esau & Jacob

- Isaac was 40 years old when he married Rebekah. Many years went by, and still they didn’t have any children. Isaac prayed to God, “Oh Lord, please look with favor on my wife Rebekah, and bless us with children.”
- Twins were born (Esau & Jacob)
- Jacob was not entitled to receive Isaac’s blessing because he wasn’t the first born. However, he wanted it more than Esau.
- Esau foolishly gave up his birthright to Jacob over a pot of stew.
- Later Jacob successfully deceives his father to bless him instead of Esau.

12 Jacob’s Blessing

- When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. There above it stood the LORD, and he said: “I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. . . .” (Genesis 28:10–15 NIV)

13 Point

- Jacob received the blessing of God and became the vessel that God would use to witness to the world His Glory.
- Esau had the right . . . but Jacob wanted it more.
- The Question we have to ask ourselves . . .
 - Are we foolishly going to compromise our calling? or
 - Are we going after it with all our heart.

14 Feeding of the 5,000

- After the people saw the miraculous sign that Jesus did, they began to say, “Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world.” Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself. (John 6:14–15 NIV)
- Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, you are looking for me, not because you saw miraculous signs but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. On him God the Father has placed his seal of approval.” (John 6:26–27 NIV)
- Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him. (John 6:56 NIV)

15 Being a Disciple

- This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples. (John 15:8 NIV)
- If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. (John 15:7 NIV)
- If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father’s commands and remain in his love. (John 15:10 NIV)
- SUMMARY: When Jesus’ words live in us and we walk them out, we abide in Him and He abides in us. Then we will have answered prayer and this gives God glory and creates faith in others to believe and put their trust in the Lord.

16 Lampstands

- I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, and among the lampstands was someone “like a son of man,” dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. (Revelation 1:12–13 NIV)
- The mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand and of the seven golden lampstands is this: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches. (Revelation 1:20 NIV)

17 Lampstands

- These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands: (Revelation 2:1 NIV)
- Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. (Revelation 2:5 NIV)

18 Centripetal Missions Model

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