

Missions Splash – April 2011



Abraham and Mission

Read: Genesis 12:1-3; Genesis 18:1-19; Genesis 22:1-18

The biblical account of Abram or Abraham (Gen. 12 – 25:11) offers many lessons to us, including examples of faith, hope, provision, and a covenantal relationship with God. The story also teaches us about mission. God had a specific purpose in mind when he spoke to Abraham; he had a mission. This mission was initiated by God, not by human beings. God's mission included specific tasks and responsibilities for Abraham, combined with blessings. God's mission extended to all people who ever lived on earth, excluding no one.

- What do these scripture readings reveal to us about God?
- What was God's mission that would benefit all people? To what extent has God's mission been accomplished?
- What tasks and responsibilities did God give to Abraham?
- Who initiates mission in the local church today and what are our responsibilities related to God's mission?
- In what ways do our lives allow God to bless others all around the earth?

Missions News for Your Church:

"When Irina Albei, of Bucharest Blessings Church of the Nazarene, prayed late last year for God to increase her faith, she had no idea this prayer would send her on a long, frightening and dangerous journey punctuated by miracle after miracle..." Irina discovered that God's mission included her, her premature baby boy, David (healthy and active), and several families who have found Christ and are now part of their church. Read the story [here](#) in *Where Worlds Meet*.

"The majority of the village did not believe that the Christian God was the true God who created the heavens and earth; He who sends the rain, He who makes the sun to shine on both the just and the unjust..." However, the people in Matéri, Benin found out otherwise. Read the story [here](#) on the Africa West Field website.

"JESUS Film ministry teams recently reported that the 10 millionth person has accepted Christ as personal savior through JESUS Film ministry, which launched in 1997..." Read more [here](#) in *Engage Magazine* or at [Jesus Film Harvest Partners](#).

Please remember to pray for the people of Japan who have experienced a combination of catastrophes at one time. The [NCN News Report](#) stated that the Sendai Church of the Nazarene pastor survived and the one-year old church building is still intact.

Promotional and Informational Tools for NMI Presidents:

Easter is coming soon. The Easter Offering is given for global missions and goes to the World Evangelism Fund (WEF). An explanation of "How Does WEF Work?" is found in a bulletin insert on the [Eurasia website](#), as well as several other promotional ideas. Several different types of graphics are available (text and no-text versions) on the [NMI website](#) and the [Nazarene Media Library](#). How will you promote the offering? Please share any ideas you have and we'll add them!

Thank you for praying for people in each of the Global Mission regions during the Nazarene World Week of Prayer this year! Consider using the prayer request lists from all of the regions throughout the year when your church or NMI group gathers to pray. The lists are found [here](#). Answers to last year's requests in Eurasia were shared in *Where Worlds Meet* [here](#).

Do you consider your Sunday School an opportunity for adults to know Christ? God works through children to bring people closer to himself. Watch this [video](#) to see one example how. Do the children in your Sunday School learn about mission every month?