The Patriarchs and Mission
Read: Genesis 26:2-5, 26:16-17, 26:26-29; Gen. 28:10-15; Gen. 39:2-6; Gen. 41:38-40; Gen. 45:4-7; Hebrews 11:8-22.

God revealed his mission to Abraham in Genesis 12:2-3. Isaac, Jacob and Joseph were taught about God's mission and his promise from their fathers and grandfathers. Isaac and Jacob each have recorded accounts of God confirming his covenant and mission through them. While a specific encounter of God reconfirming his covenant and mission with Joseph is not recorded in Genesis, Joseph's understanding of God's purpose to save lives and fulfill the promise through him is clear (Gen. 45:5-7).

Each of the patriarchs received and responded in faith to God's covenant and his mission. While they lived among the Canaanites and Egyptians who worshiped other gods, they remained faithful to Yahweh and believed his promise. Their choices and actions reflected the purpose God had for them. Their children and the indigenous people groups around them recognized Yahweh from the patriarchs' faith, choices that honored God, and God's blessings.

Do our children and grandchildren see us choose to honor and worship God in our everyday lives and lifestyles? Do they know why we do this?

Do we teach our children about God's mission, their role in it, and how to respond to him?

Do our lives reflect the fact that God has a distinct purpose for us?

How can our lives be long-term examples of faithfulness to God and who God is?

Do all of my choices honor God?

Do people “from the nations” recognize God at work in my life? What is their response?

Missions News for Your Church
Watch the Global Mission DVD story of how two 17-year-olds in Hong Kong have led their friends to study the Bible together and start a church.

“How can I serve? Is there anything that I can do...?” asked one of the 130 youth who committed their lives to full time ministry at the India NYC. 30 of the 650 youth in attendance accepted Jesus as their personal Savior. The rest of the story is in Where Worlds Meet.

Text messaging and a small red radio have been the technological bridges to sharing Christ with individuals in Africa. Read more on the World Mission Broadcast Facebook page.

“The 8th of February, 2011, is ... the day when Haileni, a 12-year-old boy with severe cerebral palsy, went to school for the very first time in his life... The Mango Tree Center, founded in 1994, continues to reach disabled people and their families in a culture where disability is thought to be the result of a curse from God.” Read about this ministry to Haileni and his family on the island of Tonga in Engage Magazine.

Promotional and Informational Tools for NMI Presidents
“Africa Strategic Advance is a group of creative access countries with populations that are extremely resistant to the Gospel . . . On a recent exploratory visit, one of our missionaries had the opportunity to lead a young woman, who we will call Fatima, to Christ.” Specific prayer requests for Fatima and this ministry are on the Prayer Mobilization Line (PML).

In 2010, 140 radio, television, and internet programs were produced by World Mission Broadcast in 36 languages and 72 countries. Share with your church how Ester was “Set Free in Madagascar” and others found Christ as well through this ministry from the World Mission Broadcast Facebook page or watch the video on the Nazarene Media Library. These tools can be used to promote a World Mission Broadcast Offering. Jennifer Brown offers another creative way to promote an offering in this skit.