

God's Blessing to All Families

Reading [Genesis 4-11](#) can quickly make you feel like God's good plans for humanity were swirling down the drain.

- [Cain](#) murders his brother Abel (4)
- Lamech, a descendant of Cain, brags to his two wives about killing a man (4)
- God sends the [flood](#) because of great wickedness, corruption, and violence on earth (6-8)...
- ...but sin follows Noah out of the ark (9)
- The builders of [Babel](#) who want to make a name for themselves are dispersed by the LORD (11)

How will anything good come out of the mess that wicked hearts and sinful choices are making in the lives of every single family on earth? In [Genesis 12](#), God made some incredible promises to a 75-year-old man who didn't have any children:

Now the LORD said to [Abram](#), "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be [blessed](#)." (12:1-3)

Years later, God made the same promises to Abraham's son, [Isaac](#) ([Gen 26:2-4](#)) and to Abraham's grandson, [Jacob](#) ([Gen 35:10-12](#)):

- ☆ Their family line would grow into a great [nation](#)
- ☆ That nation would have a beautiful [homeland](#) in which to live
- ☆ Somehow, someway, "[all](#) the [nations](#) of the earth" would be blessed by the "[offspring](#)" of this family line. How? **Let's talk about it...**



For Class & Family Discussion:

- Does this mean Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were perfect men who never sinned? What scenes come to your mind to help you answer that question?
- Of all the family lines in all of the world, why do you think God chose to work with *this* one? [Hebrews 11:8-21](#) might be helpful here...
- Let's think about God fulfilling those three great promises:
 - Did he make this family line grow into a great [nation](#)? If so, how so?
 - Did he provide that nation a [land](#) in which to live? If so, how so? [Joshua 21:43-45](#) might be helpful here...
 - Did God ever fulfill his [third promise](#)? If so, how so? How does [Matthew 1](#) help us to answer that question?
- A powerful gospel point is made by the apostle Paul in [Galatians 3:7-9, 23-29](#). How does his point relate to today's study? What do we need to understand from it?