

Imagine!

Key Scriptures

Blessed to Be a Blessing

Who Is God and What Is God's Mission?

Genesis 1

27 So God created humankind in his image ... and **God blessed them** ...

31 God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, **it was very good.**

Genesis 12

1-3 Now the Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will give you. 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 the one who curses you I will curse; and **in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.**"

Genesis 18

(The Lord appeared to Abraham in the form of three men, strangers.

Abraham welcomed the strangers lavishly and treated them as guests of honor.

Little did Abraham know that the "strange men" would deliver the great good news that Sarah shall have a son.) Hebrews 13. 2 in the N.T. says, "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for my doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

Isaiah 49.3-6

And now the Lord says ... "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

Jeremiah 29.5-14

11 For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

Deuteronomy 6.5

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Leviticus 19.18 You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Psalms 103

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love." (Exodus 34.6)

Micah 6.8

What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.

Luke 1-2

To Sarah & Elizabeth otherwise not able to have children, conceiving and birthing is a **blessing!**
Also for Mary, Mother of Jesus: "He has looked with favor upon the lowliness of his servant."

Luke 1.13

Birth is joy, gladness, rejoicing (a blessing)

Luke 2.10

The angel said to the shepherds, "I bring you good news of great joy for all the people."

Luke 2.13-14 ...a multitude of heavenly host, praising God and saying, "...on earth peace among those whom he favors."

Luke 4.18-19

Jesus reads from the scroll: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me ... to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Luke-Acts **Blessed to be a blessing** runs throughout Luke-Acts.

God's covenant of mutual blessing, beginning with Abraham & Sarah, is to be extended to all the world. This covenant of blessing extended through Jesus, Paul, the church, and to us. We are to extend mutual blessings to others.

Galatians 3.6-9

8 God...declared the gospel beforehand to Abraham, "All the Gentiles shall be blessed in you."

1 Peter 3.8-9

9 Do not repay evil for evil ... but, on the contrary, repay with a **blessing**.