#### Where to SHARE

... Be a Blessing

January 23, 2022 Pastor Augie ladicicco



The gospel is meant to be shared everywhere! Whether we are away on a mission trip, talking with our neighbors, modeling Christ's love to our coworkers or praying for our families, we can hold out hope in our spheres of influence. ... When Abram is called by God to go to a place he does not know, he follows God's prompting, and becomes a blessing to the whole world. God can often call us out of our comfort zones to share Him with people we do not know, but whom He *does* know – and love.

The LORD said to Abram: "Go out from your land, your relatives, and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, I will bless you, I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, I will curse anyone who treats you with contempt, and all the peoples on earth will be blessed through you." – Genesis 12:1-3

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran. – Genesis 12:4

"You are blessed when they insult you and persecute you and falsely say every kind of evil against you because of Me." – Matthew 5:11

#### My Next Step(s):

- I will not let frustration block my blessing others.
- $\,\circ\,$  I will bless even those that the world considers outcast.
- $\,\circ\,$  I will not wait for someone to earn my blessings.
- I will bless those who are lost and hurting—and in doing bring them the hope of Christ.

Memory Verse: "I will make you into a great nation, <u>I will bless you</u>, I will make your name great, and <u>you will be a blessing</u>." – Genesis 12:2

(This message uses materials provided The Preaching Project, San Antonio, TX.)





## If something seems too good to be true ...



# If something seems too good to be true ... it probably is!





# "I have something that could change your life!"









S. 1



#### Frustration blocks blessings ...



## We are blessed to be a blessing!



<sup>1</sup> The LORD said to Abram: "Go out from your land, your relatives, and your father's house to the land that I will show you.<sup>2</sup> I will make you into a great nation, I will bless you, I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, I will curse anyone who treats you with contempt, and all the peoples on earth will be blessed through you."



Joshua said to all the people, "This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: 'Long ago your ancestors, including Terah, the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the Euphrates River and worshiped other gods.""

#### **JOSHUA 24:2**



"I want you to go to a new place you've never seen before, and I'm going to give you lots of kids – I'm going to make you into a great nation. I know you're a pagan and don't believe in Me, but just trust Me. This will be great."

#### So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran.

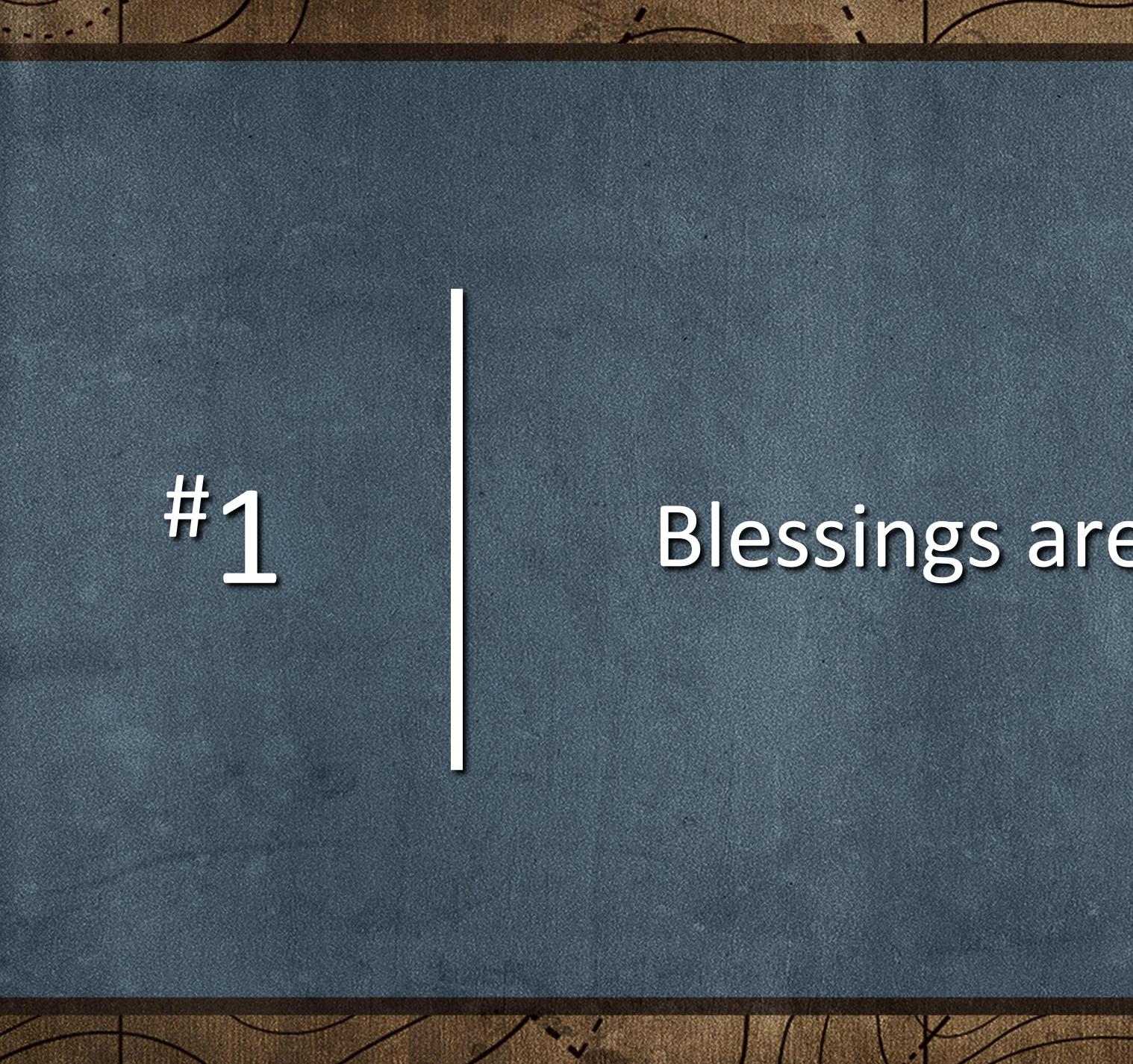


#### So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was <u>seventy-five years old</u> when he left Haran.



#### "I will make you into a great nation, I will bless you..."





#### Blessings are disarming.



#### Many tax collectors and sinners were reclining with Jesus and His disciples, for there were many who followed Him.

#### MARK 2:15 (ESV)



# Many tax collectors and sinners were reclining with Jesus and His disciples, for there were many who followed Him.

#### MARK 2:15 (ESV)



"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which appear beautiful on the outside, but inside are full of the bones of the dead and every kind of impurity."

#### **MATTHEW 23:27**





#### Blessings are NOT earned.

Y/

Se financia



<sup>3</sup> "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for the

## kingdom of heaven is theirs.<sup>8</sup> Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God."

#### MATTHEW 5:3, 8



#### <sup>3</sup> "Blessed are the <u>poor in spirit</u>, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs. <sup>8</sup> Blessed are the <u>pure in heart</u>, for they will see God."

#### MATTHEW 5:3, 8



<sup>45</sup> "He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous."

#### MATTHEW 5:45





#### Blessings bring hope.



#### "I will make you into a great nation ..."



#### "I will make you into a great nation, I will bless you..."



Once upon a time there existed a version of our faith that was ...



## Inesistible

Reclaiming the New that Jesus Unleashed for the World

#### ANDY STANLEY

"For post-Christians, science, philosophy, and reason are the go-tos for worldviews and decision making. Post Christians, especially post-Christian millennials, have low to no tolerance for faith-based answers to fact-based questions. At the same time, like most of us, they aren't exactly on a truth quest either. They're on a happiness quest.

- Andy Stanley, "Irresistible"

Many walked away from faith because faith didn't make them happy. That's never a presenting reason. Nobody wants to appear that shallow. But scratch beneath the surface and you'll find the quest for happiness plays a big role. When faith becomes an impediment to happiness, good-bye faith." - Andy Stanley, "Irresistible"

Many walked away from faith because faith didn't make them happy. That's never a presenting reason. Nobody wants to appear that shallow. But scratch beneath the surface and you'll find the quest for happiness plays a big role. When faith becomes an impediment to happiness, good-bye faith." - Andy Stanley, "Irresistible"

### μακάριος makarios / blessed; happy



### μακάριος makarios / blessed; happy

#### "I will make you into a great nation, <u>I will</u> <u>bless you</u>, I will make your name great, and <u>you will be a blessing</u>."



#### Who is undeserving that you can help?



# Who is undeserving that you can help? Who is skeptical that you can surprise with kindness?



# Who is undeserving that you can help? Who is skeptical that you can surprise with kindness? Who is hurting that you can offer hope?



# There is no downside to sharing your faith ...



#### "You are <u>blessed</u> when they insult you and persecute you and falsely say every kind of evil against you because of Me."

#### MATTHEW 5:11





S. 1

X-C-

