<u>Sermon Discussion Questions: "The Blessing of God"</u> *The Blessing* Series

- How do you think our culture defines the word "blessed"?
 - o What words are synonymous with a "blessed life" in our day?
- Read Genesis 12:1-3.
 - O What promises does God make to Abraham?
 - o Why would these promises seem farfetched for Abraham?
 - Read Numbers 6:24-26. Based on Genesis 12 and Numbers 6, how does the Bible seem to define "blessing"? (Hint: The blessing of God is rooted in a relationship with him).
- How is the blessing of God according to the Bible better than our culture's definition of blessing?
 - Which blessing do you find yourself pursuing more?
- What does it mean that the blessing of God is undeserved? How is this related to the gospel which we receive by grace through faith?
 - Read Galatians 3:13-14. How is Jesus the fulfillment of the promise of Abraham?
 - What does it mean that for those "in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles"?
 - How do we receive the "blessing of Abraham" according to v.14?
- Read Matthew 5:3-12. How does this passage conflict with our culture's idea that blessing means your life will be perfect?
 - Describe the tension between the eternal rewards associated with the blessing of God with the rewards we might experience today.
- What parts of Genesis 12:1-3, show that the blessing of Abraham was meant to passed on to others?
 - How can you be a blessing to others? (i.e. What gifts, resources, and passions can you use to bless others?)
- Which of the gospel identities (citizen, family, missionary) does this message most intersect? How can we encourage each other (and even join each other) in putting God at the center of our lives?