

SOWING THE MISSIONAL LIFE "BE THE IMAGE"

I. What does it mean to "Be the image"? (Genesis 1-9)

- A. Being made in the Image of God means to be **extensions** of His **rulership**!!
- B. Sin is a rebellion that has taken us off-course in a big way, yet God still calls us to "**be the image**"!!

II. The pinnacle of **rebellion** is to defy "being the image". (Genesis 11:1-9)

- A. Of all that went wrong, the Tower of Babel was the pinnacle (pardon the pun) of our **rejection of God's calling**!

Genesis 1-11 The international scene: Covenant (Noah), Expectation to spread out
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Genesis 12-Acts 1 The community of faith: Covenant (Moses), Expectation to remain in the land

- B. God's judgment was to **confuse** and **scatter**.

III. What is the **missional mandate** from Genesis? (Genesis 12:1-3)

- A. God takes a new turn and forms a **new community**.
- B. The calling is to be **agents of restoration**...you know, to "be the image"!!

IV. What does this mean for us?

- A. We need to risk stepping out or **remain barren**!!
- B. "Being the Image" means belonging to a missional **community**!!
- C. We need to find the places where God would call us to "**scratch the itch**" of a world under the domination of sin.
- D. We need to take advantage of the current ministries and even dream of the **future possibilities**!!

Genesis 1-11 The international scene: Covenant (Noah), Expectation to spread out	Genesis 12-Acts 1 The community of faith: Covenant (Moses), Expectation to remain in the land	Acts 2-Revelation The international scene (again): Covenant (New), Expectation to spread out
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Study Questions for October 25

1. Read Isaiah 58 five times through this week.
2. According to 58:2-4, what is wrong with the people's religious observance of fasting?
3. In vs. 5, God asks a rhetorical question (obviously the answer to the question is "No, He won't accept it."). In your own words, what is God asking and how is He portraying their overall attitude towards religious duty?
4. What is the kind of fast that God wants from us, according to Isaiah 58:6-7? How does this reflect a missional component to our spiritual lives?
5. What are the results of a heart-felt missional response to people, according to 58:8-14? How does God reward His community-of-faith for their obedience?