

## One Tree . . . and More

Genesis 12:1,2 says: *"The Lord had said to Abram . . . I will make of you a great nation . . ."*

You know how the story goes.

Abram's name was changed to Abraham, which means "father of many nations".

In some ways, it could have been embarrassing to Abraham. Every time he met someone new, which may not have been often, he would say, "Hi, I'm Father of Many Nations." And the one to whom he was introducing himself probably responded, "Wow. How many children do you have?"

And Abraham would have to say, "Well, Sarah and I have one son."

Such a great promise was given to Abraham. He would be the father of a great nation. He would own land. And his descendants would be as innumerable as the stars.

And when he died, he had one son (Isaac), and owned a small plot of land around an oak tree.

Anyone who looked at Abraham's life and heard about the promise by which he lived would probably have laughed.

Many nations? He had one son.

Land? An oak tree.

And yet we know the rest of the story. God blessed Abraham immeasurably more than what it appeared.

And isn't that the way God works in our lives? From the outside, we don't look like we're all that special.

Sometimes it may seem like the "Building Hope for the Future" campaign doesn't appear all that special.

A few families over 60 years ago didn't think they were something special. But we are grateful for the faithful obedience of those who built **this** Hope for the future... understanding the promise that was given to Abraham was meant for them as well... and now for us. So how can the Kingdom move forward by what we are doing?

We don't appear to be the kind of people through whom the Kingdom is moved forward. And yet **we are**. Because God does immeasurably more **through us**, no matter how few trees we may own.

You see... When God reveals a vision for ministry, when God leads His children ( the children of Abraham) to respond with sacrificial gifts, and when God expands the potential for gospel impact, the results are today, and will be forever, " immeasurably more than we ask or imagine."