



"And now I am no more in the world,
but these are in the world..." (John 17:11).

Use this recent news story to help your students see the relevance
of this week's lesson from the Standard Lesson Commentary®
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A CHANGE IN PHILOSOPHICAL DIRECTION?

Brett Kavanaugh was confirmed as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court last week by the narrowest margin since Stanley Matthews was confirmed in 1881. Motivating the highly partisan Senate's actions were the fears of some and the hopes of others that the Court will be moving in a new direction philosophically. Such a change may determine the kind of nation America will be in the future. The intensity of emotion involved in the matter was evident in angry statements made by many Senators and enraged demonstrations that took place as the hearings proceeded.

A CHANGE IN SPIRITUAL DIRECTION?

When God called Abram, he was also concerned about the future: What kind of world would this become if the sinful direction of humanity continued unchecked? Abram's task would be to change the course of history by acting on his faith in God. He was called to father a new nation—a family which would grow into a worldwide people whose lives were characterized by faith.

1. In a nation angrily divided over the views of what it should become, how should Christians act?
2. What does Proverbs 15:1 suggest about how God wants us to behave in such circumstances? What part does praying for our leaders (2 Chronicles 7:14; 1 Timothy 2:1, 2) have in helping to turn our nation toward God?
3. How does Abram's response to God's call challenge you to be more faith-filled? In what way have you answered God's call to faithfully step out in a new direction in your life?

—Charles R. Boatman

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