

Giving a Blessing

In Our Family

Small Groups Fall 2009

Introduction

Have you thought twice before saying “God bless you” to someone this past week? Remember, giving a blessing is something sacred and should not be taken lightly. When we bless someone, we desire their good. God can use *us* to extend that blessing.

This week we are going to look at giving a blessing in our *family*.

Why do children, young and very old, desire their parent’s approval?

The Unexpected Recipient of a Blessing

From a father - 1 Samuel 16:1-13

As a father, why did Jesse only offer his eldest sons?

See verse 7 to see why David was chosen before all his brothers.

Have you ever blessed your children based on their order in the family or based on their gifts and talents only to find that you should have relied on God’s wisdom to bless them?

How can we rely on God’s wisdom when giving a blessing to our children?

From a grandfather - Genesis 48:1-20

Look for evidences of the following in this passage:

1. The blessing is possession of his grandchildren (the grandchildren must know they belong)
2. The blessing includes physical touch
3. The blessing of a name living on

If you are a grandparent, how can **YOU** bless your grandchildren in these three ways?

The Unexpected Giver of a Blessing

Children, bless your mothers - Proverbs 31:27-29; 30:11-12

Tell of a time your child unexpectedly gave you a blessing?

Why do mothers especially benefit from the blessing of their children?

Grown children, bless your aging parents - Ruth 1:15-18

Ruth gave Naomi, her mother-in-law, the blessing of her loyalty. Often, aging parents worry that they will not be cared for adequately. Discuss how we can give a blessing to our aging parents as Ruth did.

Take Time

Take time this week to purposefully bless your family. Life is short and we must redeem the time! We can bless with the power of the Holy Spirit and in God's wisdom.

Spend time in prayer

Ask God to show you the relationships you need to look at in your family where God can use you to bless. It would be the best Christmas gift!