

Giving a Blessing

To our Father in Heaven

Small Groups Fall 2009

Introduction

This is our last small group lesson focusing on giving a blessing. Have you been challenged to extend the Goodness of God to others through blessing them? If so, share your experience.

We have learned about giving a blessing instead of a curse and giving a blessing in our families. But, seemingly more complicated is the concept of blessing God.

“Bless the Lord” - This phrase and others like it are such common phrases in worship music. Just for fun – name all the songs you can think of that have variations of this phrase woven into them.

Blessing God is the Gift of a Child

At the end of our last lesson on giving a blessing in our families, we discussed how children bless their parents. This is the same way we bless God – as His children.

Read **1 John 3:1 and John 1:12.**

We don't bless God because we are giving Him something He doesn't have (that would be impossible). Children bless their parents by reflecting the parents' love and devotion back to them. Similarly, when we reflect back to God all that He has given to us, we are blessing Him.

Let's Soak in the “Blessing” Verses

Before we understand this concept practically, go around your circle reading these wonderful verses on blessing God.

Deuteronomy 8:10

Psalm 100:4

Psalm 103:2

Psalm 104:1

1 Chronicles 29:10

Nehemiah 9:5

Right Back at You!

Remember blessing God is giving what He has given us right back to Him.

What is given back to God in the following verses? How does each passage apply to us today? Consider your own life experiences.

Deuteronomy 12:5-7

1 Samuel 1:27-28

1 Corinthians 2:12-13

Revelation 4:10-11

What is something God has given you that you can give right back to Him which would bless God?

Simple, Childlike Love Blesses God

Read [Luke 7:36-50](#) Put yourself in this woman's shoes and give your best guess at what her emotions would have been at this time. Was she embarrassed? Was she fearful? Was she humiliated? ...

This woman was blessing Jesus because she knew she had such a great debt that needed His forgiveness. She could have made the process complicated and elaborate. Instead, she just broke the vial and wept – simple and contrite. The focus of her love was completely on Christ regardless of how she looked to others. On the other hand, Simon was “blessing” Jesus by having him to dinner. Without the love in his heart, his blessing was invalid. When we keep ourselves humble, always remembering what God has given us, we will want to bless Him more and more.

What are some **simple** ways we can bless God – in contrast to our fleshly desire to impress others or the Lord?

Right now, write down one or more ways you can bless the Lord with your own life. Make a plan to do this before Christmas as your Christmas gift to God.

Spend time in prayer

Small Group Schedule

We will be taking two weeks off and will be starting another round the week of January 4, 2010. Our next topic will be around finances from a Biblical perspective. Have a wonderful Merry Christmas! Jesus is the reason for this season!