

BLESS THIS HOME Week 5 “Speaking a Blessing Over Your Family”

Believers Statesboro 6-19-22 Pastor Scott Moore, Believers Church of Statesboro, www.believersstatesboro.com

Happy Father’s Day! Today as we conclude Bless This Home:

- I pray that your families are hungering and thirsting for righteousness and God is filling you!
- I pray your families are Peacemakers rather than Peacekeepers and being called the children of God.
- I pray your families are walking in purity of hearts and seeing the presence of God in your homes.
- And if you are being persecuted because of Jesus, I pray that you will be filled with joy because great is your reward in heaven!

Today we are going to talk about blessing our families!

As followers of Christ, we have two wonderful tools at our disposal.

1. The more familiar tool is Prayer! We have the privilege to pray for each other.
2. The other less known and less used tool is the power of the Spoken Blessing.

The Spoken Blessing Over Rebekah

In the first book of the Bible, Genesis, we see the story of Abraham after Sarah’s death, sending his servant back to his home country to find a bride for his son Isaac. God led the servant to Rebekah and before she left with him to marry Isaac, her family, the house of Bethuel, spoke a blessing to her.

Genesis 24:60 **And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, "Our sister, may you increase to thousands upon thousands; may your offspring possess the gates of their enemies."**

Jacob’s Prayer for Rebekah

But... Rebekah was barren. But later Jacob prayed a prayer of faith and God opened her womb.

Genesis 25:21 **Isaac prayed to the LORD on behalf of his wife, because she was barren. The LORD answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant.**

We have taught in the past and we will teach on it again, about how to Impart a Blessing. Let me remind you so that we can begin to speak blessings over our families.

How to Impart a Blessing

1) Bless By Faith. **Hebrews 11:20-21** **By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future. ²¹ By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph’s sons, and worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff.**

The Blessing must be spoken in Faith, like prayer, believing that God can cause the blessing to be fruitful. You need to have faith for blessings just like you have faith for answered prayer.

2) Use the High Priestly Blessing as an Example.

Numbers 6:22-27 ...‘This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them:

PART 1) Protection 24 ““The LORD bless you and keep you;

PART 2) Favor and Grace 25 the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;

PART 3) Peace 26 the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace. ””

27 “So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

3) Desire God’s Highest and Best for the Ones You are Blessing.

David Prayed for and Blessed Jerusalem **Psalms 122:8-9** **For the sake of my family and friends, I will say, “Peace be within you.” 9 For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your prosperity. (God’s good and best)**

- What GOOD **Do You Desire** for Your Family?

4) Laying on of Hands.

Genesis 48:13 And Joseph took both of them, Ephraim on his right toward Israel's left hand and Manasseh on his left toward Israel's right hand, and brought them close to him.

Mark 10:16 And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

The laying on of the hands is especially important as we bless our families. Our children should be taught that as we lay our hands upon them, *they should expect* God to impart favor to them.

5) The Spoken Blessing. In the Scripture, a blessing becomes so only when it is spoken.

It should be spoken and also heard by the one being blessed. The spoken blessing is more than just speaking encouraging words. In **Numbers 6:22-27** we see that God expected Aaron and his sons to speak the blessing over the people and as they invoked (engaged, put into action, the life that flows from the name of God) His name, He (God) would be present in the blessing to impart blessings to them. **27** *"So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them."*

God does the blessing. You speak it and He is the one who causes it to come about.

Speaking a Blessing Over Your Family

1 Chronicles 16:43 Then all the people left, each for their own home, and David returned home to bless his family.

I can't think of a better atmosphere for a child to be raised in than in a home of unconditional love and blessings. A home where blessings are confidently spoken in faith. A place where children can rest in knowing that their parents are blessing them, praying for them, and believing God's best for them and that their parents are blessing one another.

You will want to bless your family in accordance with God's plans and purposes for each child.

- So, begin to seek the Lord, and ask Him how you should bless your children. Ask Him to reveal to you the direction that He is leading your child, and then get into agreement with God and bless them accordingly.
- This won't be something that you discover overnight. You won't get this answer in one prayer. God won't even share with you every detail of His plan for your child's life or your family life, but through much prayer, listening, and observations you will begin to see God's plans.

Seven Resources for Blessing Your Children

Pastor Bill Ligon in his book "Imparting The Blessing to Your Children" suggests seven resources to draw from that will help you bless your children.

1. **The Desire of Your Heart.** **Psalms 37:4** Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. If you are delighting yourself in the Lord you can trust that your desires will quickly be becoming God's desires.
2. **Personal Insights into Your Child's Life.** What is God showing about the future of your child? Gifts, talents, natural leader, musically inclined, mercy giver, subjects they show interest and excel in?
NEXT STEP: Begin to record observations of strong characteristics and Godly giftings that you see in your immediate family members.
3. **Special Inspiration from The Holy Spirit.** The Holy Spirit, Spirit of Truth, will guide believers into all truth, speak what he hears, show us things to come, glorify Jesus, and receive from Jesus and show those things to us. (**John 16:12-15**)

4. The Promises of God. Search the scriptures and find promises to speak over your children's lives and your spouse... These scriptures can be powerful tools for speaking a blessing.

We should also teach our children to love and honor the Word of God. They will learn from us that these are "Words of Life." Then when The Word of God is used to bless our children, it will have special meaning to them and impact their lives for years to come.

EX: I bless you according to **Psalms 1:1-3 Blessed is (Your Child's Name) who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; 2 But (Your Child's Name) delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night. 3 (Your Child's Name) shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, (Your Child's Name) leaf also shall not wither; and whatever (Your Child's Name) does shall prosper. (NKJ)**

- Prophecies: There may have been **prophecies** spoken over your child also. You will want to reiterate those Words from the Lord as you bless them.
- Child's Favorite Verse: **EX:** Do you know your child's favorite Bible verse? I used my son's favorite verses to bless him,
*"Bradley you have stated that your favorite Bible verse is Matthew 5:16 "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."
I bless you to be a light to the world. A city that is set on a hill which cannot be hidden. May you always let your light shine before men."*

NEXT STEP: I will ask each family member what their favorite Bible verse is, and I will search the scripture for promises to speak over their lives.

5. What Other People Say About Your Child. Other people are observing our children and they can often see things that we don't see. What are others saying about your children?

NEXT STEP: I will start writing down the observations of others concerning my family members.

6. The Desires of Your Child. Many people will tell you that they had a sense of their destiny even as a young child. I knew at a very young age that I wanted to be a Pastor. I didn't know if God was calling me to be a Pastor or not, I just knew that it was my desire. Later I would realize that the desire had been planted in my heart by God and my calling was a confirmation of that desire.

NEXT STEP: I will take time this week to talk with my family and listen to their desires.

7. The Meaning of Your Child's Name.

Many name books are available to find out what your child's name means. You may have given them a name at birth that expressed your heart's desire for them, or you may be discovering the meaning of your child's name for the first time. You may be surprised at how well their name describes them.

Also, Biblical names can express the character and strength that you have seen in a Biblical hero that you would like to see come about in your child's life.

EX: I used the meanings of my son's names as I spoke a blessing on them.

- Bradley your name means 'Abundant Provider'. Your middle name Scott means 'Loyal.' Therefore, I bless you with the ability to be a loyal and abundant provider to your wife, children, and others.
 - Tyler your name means "Industrious". According to Colossians 3:23-24, in whatsoever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men for you serve the Lord Christ.

(Warning: Just because you name your child a certain name with a special meaning, that does not guarantee that they will become what you name them. You name and bless in Faith and Hope.)

Speak Blessings over Your Family

In the Scripture a blessing becomes so only when it is spoken. Every blessing in the Bible is a verbal one. Even the written blessings were to be read out loud to the churches. We have all seen the damage of withheld blessings and silence in homes. Let's speak a blessings!

Planning a Blessing Service

Our Jewish friends celebrate their children coming into adulthood and being responsible to the commandments of God with a Bar Mitzvah for Boys and a Bat Mitzvah for girls.

I suggest a Blessing Service for our children as well. It's sort of like a Christian Bar Mitzvah or Bat Mitzvah for our children.

- The service is our acknowledgement that they have passed from childhood into adulthood.
- They are now responsible to God and His Commandments.

As they are making this transition into adulthood they receive a special blessing from close friends, loved ones, siblings, and parents. This special service will provide a monumental and unforgettable experience for your child and all those who participate.

Even though we encourage you to bless your children as often as possible, this is a special day just for them where you celebrate who they are and the hope of their future. Usually, The Blessing Service will consist of a dinner in which a few close friends and family members are invited.

ALY ADD "How to Plan a Blessing Service" RESOURCE LINK