

The Power of a Parent's Blessing

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- I. Genesis 12:3 “In you, all the families of the earth will be blessed.”
 - A. Promise given to Abraham. We inherit this promise, since through the blood of Messiah we are the seed of Abraham (Galatians 3:8-9; Acts 3:25).
 - B. Paul called this promise in Genesis 12:3 “the Gospel” that was preached beforehand to Abraham (Galatians 3:8).
 - C. So, we have a responsibility to bless all the families of the earth.
 - D. All of our words, actions and attitudes either bless or curse other people around us.

- II. What do blessing and cursing mean?
 - A. To Bless: to accept, to consider a success, to speak well of, to step toward, to add to another’s life, **to kneel before**, **TO EMPOWER TO PROSPER**.
 - B. To Curse: to reject, to consider a failure, to speak ill of, to step away from, to subtract from another’s life, to lord it over, **TO DISEMPOWER FROM PROSPERING**.
 - C. Prosper: to do well, to thrive, to excel, to have a pleasant journey in all areas of life.
 - D. God sent Jesus to bless every family on the earth. How did He do so?

- III. Identity and Destiny: Two key questions in life.
 - A. “Who am I? Am I loved, and do I have personal worth?”
 - B. “Why am I here? Is my life significant? Is my life really making a difference?”

- IV. Only two ultimate answers to these questions. One is Truth. The other is a lie. One blesses and the other curses the identity of the recipient.
 - A. Truth: “You are loved, planned for and valuable. And you are significant, have a purpose and destiny, and are well equipped to fulfill such.”
 - B. Lie: “You are not loved, are an accident, and have no value. And you have no significance, have not purpose and destiny, and even if you did, you are such a loser, you would mess it up anyway.”
 - C. Human agents, called parents are used by God or Satan to impart one or both of these messages into the hearts of children growing up.

- V. It is an established fact that Jewish people tend to prosper. Book: *The Jewish Phenomenon* by Thomas Silbiger.
- A. Jewish people comprise only 2% of the U.S. population, yet;
 - B. 40% of the top 40 of the Forbes 400 richest Americans (all Billionaires) are Jewish
 - C. 25% of all American Nobel Prize winners are Jewish
 - D. 30% of all American Nobel Prize winners in science are Jewish
 - E. 20% of all professors at leading U.S. universities are Jewish
 - F. 40% of the partners at leading New York and Washington D.C. law firms are Jewish
 - G. Jewish people own many of the major movie studios in Hollywood.
- VI. Why do Jewish people prosper?
- A. Gentile families could experience the same success if they would adopt some of the same practices that Jewish people have.
 - B. What do Jewish people do? One practice is that they bless their children regularly every week.
 - C. What happens to Jewish children who were blessed every week? Exactly what their parents “prophesied.”
 - D. All parents are prophets, but not all prophetic words are from God.
 - E. Most Christian families have no regular practice of blessing.
 - F. Some Christian parents curse their children in an attempt to correct or discipline their behavior.
- VII. Potential consequences of not being blessed, or of being cursed growing up.
- A. Fulfillment of negative prophetic words from parents.
 - B. Lingering feeling of being a child in adulthood.
 - C. Lack of confidence.
 - D. Undue striving to attain value, and significance.
 - E. Performance orientation, and perfectionism.
 - F. Striving to become a man or woman (affirm masculine or feminine identity) by:
 - 1. Joining a gang.
 - 2. Joining the military (usually the marines).
 - 3. Sexually conquering women.
 - 4. Sexually attracting men.
 - 5. Performing some great feat or heroic deed.
 - 6. Attaining a great position of power, prestige, or wealth.

- VIII. Three life-changing habits to create a revolution of blessing.
- A. Pray together with your wife/husband every day for 6 minutes. Three topics:
 1. Repentance and forgiveness
 2. Thanksgiving
 3. Blessing (Numbers 6:23-26)
 - B. Establish a regular time to repent to your children and bless them each week.
 - C. Invite others to dinner and pray a blessing over their family members.
- IX. One father was encouraged to bless his son on his son's 65th birthday. This blessing was life changing for the son. It's never too late to bless.

Recommended Resources

- www.FamilyFoundations.com website
- The Power of a Parent's Blessing: See Your Children Prosper and Fulfill Their Destinies in Christ by Craig Hill (book)
- The Ancient Paths by Craig Hill (book)