



Sermon Notes: November 1, 2015

Learning to Bless

1 of 4 from the teaching series "The Blessing"
Genesis 27:26-29 • Pastor Paul Bradford

Genesis 27:26-29

26 Then his father Isaac said to him, "Come here, my son, and kiss me." 27 So he went to him and kissed him. When Isaac caught the smell of his clothes, he blessed him and said, "Ah, the smell of my son is like the smell of a field that the Lord has blessed. 28 May God give you heaven's dew and earth's richness—an abundance of grain and new wine. 29 May nations serve you and peoples bow down to you. Be lord over your brothers, and may the sons of your mother bow down to you. May those who curse you be cursed and those who bless you be blessed."

Introduction

- The power of blessing can heal relationships, deepen friendships, and release the potential in our lives.
- Words are powerful - *The tongue has the power of life and death (Proverbs 18:21).*
- The Bible provides examples of the Hebrew blessing (*Genesis 27:26-29, 48:8-20*).

Five Elements of Biblical Blessing

- Meaningful Touch
 - Isaac kissed Jacob - it was not incidental - kissing, hugging, or the laying on of hands were all a part of bestowing the blessing.
 - beneficial effects - communicates warmth, acceptance, affirmation, enhances physical health.
- Spoken Words
 - just being present and showing you care does not communicate a blessing - it only becomes a blessing when it is spoken.
- Expressing High Value
 - the word "bless" in Hebrew means "to bow the knee" and often referred to honoring an important person.
- Picturing a Special Future
 - Isaac prophesied Jacob's future in his blessing.
 - your blessing may become powerful words of encouragement that release potential.
 - our heavenly Father promises a special future for his children (*Numbers 6:23-27, Jeremiah 29:11*).
- An Active Commitment
 - while it is important to speak words that express high value and picture a special future, it is also essential that we back those words up with action.
 - love is words put into action (*1 John 3:18*).

When the blessing is missing in your life

- receive God's blessing - the Father's blessing will replace your lack of blessing

OUR RESPONSE

Commit to [intentionally](#) bless those nearest to you, & to speak [life-giving](#) words to all.