



**FROM THE BIBLE**  
1 Chronicles 4:9-10 (NLT)  
Matthew 7:7 (NLT)

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## MESSAGE TO CONVERSATION GUIDE

Week 3 | Blessed In The Mess

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1. In this message, Joel started out by talking about some *messes* his kids (& dog) created recently. In your life, are you more likely to create the mess or clean up the mess? What sort of messes drive you crazy?
2. How can life be messy (not literally but situationally)? Can you give some examples?
3. A lot of times, when we're in a mess in life (i.e. a breakup, family drama, unhappy clients, etc.) we think God blessing us means getting us out of the mess. But in this message, Joel said, *what if God wants to bless you IN THE MESS & not APART FROM THE MESS?* Discuss why God might do that.
4. We looked at a famous prayer by a guy named Jabez in this message. Read 1 Chronicles 4:9-10 and talk about how Jabez's life *began* in a mess.
5. Our 1st point was, *don't let your mess, kill your success*. What are some ways that we often let our past mess kill our future success?
6. Jabez's name literally means *pain*. However, Jabez didn't accept that as his life's fate. Re-read 1 Chronicles 4:10 and talk about what Jabez asked God for.
7. Jabez wasn't afraid to ask God for a better life. In fact, what he asked God for could be looked at as asking for more money, power, & influence. Does it surprise you that it's ok to ask God for these things? What would you like to start asking God for?
8. In this message, Joel said, *repeated prayers are rewarded prayers*. Read Matthew 7:7. What did Jesus teach us to do here? Is this a pattern you take in your prayer life or is it something you can grow stronger at?
9. It's ok to ask for a better life, but in this message, we balanced that view out by saying *God's not our Cosmic Genie In A Bottle where our every wish is His every command*. What would happen to our need for God if we already had all we needed?
10. Being *Simply Blessed* doesn't mean life is without messes. The truth is, God promises to be with us **IN THE MESS**, that's the true blessing. Discuss that idea.



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