

THE POWER OF BLESSING:

Practice of Blessing

1 Peter 3:12

Sunday, July 8, 2018

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SERIES REVIEW:

- A blessing expresses God's _____ and _____.
- A blessing is a form of _____.
- A blessing flows best out of a _____ life.
- A blessing should align with our _____ and _____.

A HISTORY OF BLESSING

Once when Jacob was cooking stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was exhausted. And Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stew, for I am exhausted!" (Therefore his name was called Edom.) Jacob said, "Sell me your birthright now." Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" Jacob said, "Swear to me now." So he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright. (Genesis 25:29-34)

Isaac's blessing on the firstborn granted him:

Esau was vulnerable because he was:

- _____
- **Driven by his** _____.
- _____

What did Esau need most?

See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.
(Hebrews 12:15-17)

THE CONTENT OF A BLESSING

Blessing (defined) – to confer or invoke divine favor upon; ask God to look favorably upon

Thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them, “The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.” So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them. (Numbers 6:22-27)

- **Speak God's _____ to them.**
- **Request God's _____ for them.**
- **Declare God's _____ and _____ over them.**

THE ART OF GIVING A BLESSING

Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called... For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.

(1 Peter 3:9,12)

Legend:

A blessing expresses God's heart and truth.

A blessing is a form of prayer.

A blessing flows best out of a grace-filled heart.

A blessing should align with our words and actions.

Tired

Driven by his appetite.

Impatient

Speak God's truth to them.

Request God's favor for them.

Declare God's character and promises over them.

TRAIN READING PLAN: July 8-14

-1 Thessalonians 1-2

-1 Thessalonians 3-4

-Psalm 81; 1 Thessalonians 5

-Psalm 82; 2 Thessalonians 1

-2 Thessalonians 2-3

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