

9-14-25 Small Group Guide: Blessed in Christ

Key Takeaways:

1. In Jesus, believers are blessed with every spiritual blessing.
2. Being blessed means you are wanted, forgiven, included, and secure in Christ.
3. The world's violence and our experiences often make it difficult to feel blessed.
4. God's blessing through Christ is the solution to the world's problems, not human efforts alone.
5. Perseverance and praise are signs of receiving God's blessing.

Discussion Questions:

1. The pastor says, "In Jesus, you are blessed." How does this statement challenge or encourage you in your current life circumstances?
2. Discuss the four aspects of being blessed in Christ (wanted, forgiven, included, secure). Which one resonates most with you right now and why?
3. The sermon mentions that we live in a world full of violence, not blessing. How have you experienced this tension in your own life?
4. How does the concept of the "immanent frame" (looking only within ourselves or the material world for meaning and purpose) manifest in our society today?
5. The pastor states, "Removing God does not bring blessing. It increases violence." Do you agree or disagree? Share your thoughts and experiences.
6. How does understanding that we are "in Christ" change our perspective on life's challenges and blessings?
7. Discuss the idea that praising God "completes the enjoyment" of His blessings. How have you experienced this in your own life?

Practical Applications:

1. Daily Blessing Reminder: Each day this week, write down one way you've experienced God's blessing "in Christ." Share these with the group next time you meet.
2. Praise Practice: Set aside 10 minutes each day to intentionally praise God for His blessings, even (and especially) in difficult circumstances.
3. "In Christ" Study: Throughout the week, look for phrases in the New Testament that use "in Christ" or similar language. Reflect on how these passages deepen your understanding of your identity in Jesus.

4. Blessing Others: Identify one person in your life who needs encouragement. Find a way to remind them of God's blessings and their identity in Christ this week.
5. Examine Your Frame: Reflect on areas of your life where you might be operating within the "immanent frame." How can you intentionally invite God's perspective into those areas?
6. Group Praise: Close your meeting by having each person share one specific attribute of God they want to praise Him for, based on the sermon's teachings about His blessings.