

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE: 11 Nov 2018

Abba Pt 2: the Father's blessing- Ps Mark Scholtz



WELCOME Open the group in prayer, and encourage the members to lay aside the weeks burdens and focus on God.

WORSHIP "God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth." John 4:24(NIV)

TALK IT OVER: "Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply." Genesis 1:27 (NLT)

This is only a guide. Discuss the points you want to discuss.

"So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground." Gen 1:27-28 NLT

1. Discuss this scripture with reference to the difference between living for a blessing and living from the blessing? Why is it important to distinguish this difference?

"And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high." And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy," Luke 24:49-52 ESV

2. What did Jesus bless them with? Do you feel like you operate from a place of blessing? Why does the enemy want us to believe that we need to earn blessing? Why did Jesus bless us?

The Lord had said to Abram, "Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father's family, and go to the land that I will show you. I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who treat you with contempt. All the families on earth will be blessed through you." Genesis 12:1-3 NLT

3. If God spoke to you like this now, how do you think you would respond? If we are blessed through Abraham, how can we continue that blessing on his behalf?

"Then Isaac said to Jacob, "Come closer so I can touch you and make sure that you really are Esau." So Jacob went closer to his father, and Isaac touched him. "The voice is Jacob's, but the hands are Esau's", Isaac said. But he did not recognize Jacob, because Jacob's hands felt hairy just like Esau's. So Isaac prepared to bless Jacob." Genesis 27:21-23 NLT

"And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and God's promise to Abraham belongs to you." Galatians 3:29 NLT

4. Discuss the significance of how the Father blesses us because He sees His son, and not really us. How does one actually live this out, and truly believe it in their heart? Do you believe that you are blessed? Why do people think that blessing means financial gain? What do the blessings of God look like to you?

"For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs - heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ." Romans 8:12-17a ESV

5. What does a spirit of slavery mean to you? How does a slave act as opposed to a child? What inheritance does a slave have and what does a child get?

WORKS [GOING DEEPER IN PRAYER]

Let's pray for:

- People in the group who feel like a slave and not a child of God.
- Any special needs in the group.