

Living That Blessed Life

WEEK 2 – GOD WANTS US TO BE BLESSED

BIG IDEA:

In this series, we are talking about trusting God, obeying His instructions, and experiencing God's blessings in our lives. Those blessings are to know God through Jesus and then out of that relationship, be a blessing to the world. When we bless others, our hearts are connected to Him. It is all about the heart ... our actions, flow out of the heart! Yes, we want to live a blessed life and be a blessing to the world, but those actions are the result of the heart. Our faith, our heart, is the cause, our actions are the effect.

KEY VERSE:

1 John 4:10-11 “ *This is real love—not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent his Son (Jesus) as a sacrifice to take away our sins. Dear friends, since God loved us that much we surely ought to love each other.* ”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Is the power of the Holy Spirit apparent in your life?
2. What is the state of your heart? Is it open to what God wants to do through you or blocked by other things?

Key Point #1: The cause = God loved us. The effect of this new heart is that we love others.

3. Have you accepted the gift of the Holy Spirit? How has he changed your heart? Is this something that is a new concept for you or have you heard of this before?
4. What does the Holy Spirit empower us to do? Are these things evident in your own life?

Key Point #2: I control how open my heart is by controlling the stuff that gets in the way and by how I live.

5. What have you put in the way of what God is trying to do in your life?
6. Do you truly believe that what God wants for you is better than what you want? Do your priorities reflect this?
7. Is there something in your heart that you know is not God's plan for you? Are you living in a way that is not in alignment with His Word says?

MOVING FORWARD:

Your heart is the cause, your generosity is the effect. Your actions, good or bad, are a reflection to the world of your heart. Examine your heart this week, make it a priority. Do an honest evaluation of your damper. Is it fully open? partially open? is it fully closed? Remember, you control the damper. Ask God to **show you** what might be in the way, **change** that in you, and **fill you** with a fresh breath of His Spirit. Do whatever it takes to get your heart right. As a group, answer this question: what is the state of your heart? And what do you need to change this week in order to get your heart right so you can live a life of extreme generosity!