Series Open Topic - 29-Sep-19 Date - The Blessing (Numbers 6:22-27) Topic Ps Dinah Lee Speaker

WELCOME [15 min]

You may want to look up the following websites for icebreakers suitable for your cell.

Ice Breakers 1 Ice Breakers 2

WORSHIP [15 min]

You may select songs like

- 1. Aaronic Benediction (Misha Goetz)
- 2. This is Amazing Grace
- 3. Highest Praise

WORD [45 min]

Spiritual Objectives

At the end of the sermon discussion, cell members will:

- 1. Grasp that God earnestly desires to lavish blessings on us, His children; and
- 2. Be God's blessing to others daily.

Sermon Summary

The following are the key points of the sermon:

- 1. The Aaronic Blessing bestows upon us the Father's favour and protection, the Son's delight and grace, and the Holy Spirit's presence and peace.
- 2. The Blessing has both collective and personal dimensions, and it marks us as belonging to the LORD.
- 3. God's people are blessed to be a blessing.

Sermon Recap (Full Summary)

We carry a very powerful tool with us, our words. It has immense power over people, bringing life or death. As believers, we have the authority to use our tongues to minister and to bless. 1 Peter 2:5 & 9 says that every believer is a priest, therefore we can boldly pronounce the (Aaronic) Blessing (Numbers 6:22-27) over the people in our lives. It is loaded with power and promise.

'The LORD' is the name that means "the I AM". It has a threefold repetition in the Aaronic Blessing (vs 24, 25 & 26) which denotes the triune identity: The Father is the Lord (Psalm 110:1), The Son is the Lord (Romans 10:9), The Spirit is the Lord (2 Corinthians 3:17).



1) The Meaning of the Blessing (vs 24-26)

- a. We have the Father's Favour and His Protection (vs 24).
 - In Genesis 1:28, God blessed Adam and Eve so that they can be fruitful and subdue the earth, and have dominion over every living thing that moves. This shows God's favour upon us.
 - "To keep" is the same verb as "to guard" in Hebrew (shamar). In Psalm 91:11, God commands his angels to guard us in all our ways. God bestows His protection upon us. He promises to watch over us in the past, present and future.
- b. We have the Son's Delight and His Grace (vs 25).
 - God's light is shining on us, and it is an indication of God's approval, fellowship and presence. He does not repay us according to our iniquities (Psalm 103:10). We are believers in Christ and God does not turn His back against His children.
 - God chooses who he wants to be gracious to and to be merciful to (Exodus 33:19), there is nothing we can do to make him be gracious or merciful to us.
 - This blessing was pronounced right after Israel had disobeyed God by building and worshipping the golden calf. God extends His grace out of His Covenantal love for them and He wants to bless His people. There is a danger of us orchestrating things and situations to get God's blessings, but it is unnecessary.
- c. We have the Holy Spirit's Presence and His Peace (vs 26).
 - The Holy Spirit has an ongoing work in our lives to deepen our relationship with God and to strengthen our identity as children of God. We cannot flee from the Holy Spirit (Psalm 139:7 and 139:2).
 - His Shalom (wholeness, completeness, soundness) is also with us for eternity (Philippians 4:6-7). A multidimensional wholeness in our lives, that is peace.

2) The Nature of the Blessing (vs 22-23, 27)

- a. It has both collective and personal dimensions in the blessing.
 - We cannot go through life concerned about God's personal blessings. God is equally concerned for the total wellbeing of His people. It is not only about us and we need to trust God and not doubt His goodness.
 - In the blessing that God has for us, there is always a bigger picture and purpose.
- b. It marks us as His own (vs 27)
 - We belong to God and He wants nothing but the best for us. That is how He marks His people – with His blessings. He wants to lavish and invest in us.
 - God always purpose to bless us for our good. It is not our version of what a blessing should be, but His version.

Conclusion

- Only God alone can bless His people, and no one else can undo His blessings. Nothing worth having does He withhold from us.
- A declaration of God's blessing on us is a constant demonstration of His grace and peace.
- God's people are blessed to be a blessing (Genesis 12:2).
- When we carry the mark of God, we should live our lives that reveal His attributes.



Discussion Questions

- 1. Read Numbers 6:22-27. The Blessing came right after Israel had disobeyed God. Discuss any blessings that you received from God that you felt you do not deserve. [15 min]
- 2. Most of the time, the Israelites missed (or were blind to) God's blessings for them. Share an experience in your life that led you to grumble to God or to doubt His character but on hindsight was actually a blessing. [15 min]
- 3. Ps Dinah mentioned that God blesses us so that we can bless others. One way that we can bless others is when we live out the attributes of His name. How then can you display God's attributes in your daily living? [15 min]

WORKS [10 min]

Let's pray:

- 1. For us to deeply understand that God truly wants to bless us for we are His children
- 2. For us to fully trust in God and His goodness
- 3. For us to consciously bless others as God has blessed us

Church Vision

"A radiant disciple-making church catalysing Kingdom transformation in our communities and the nations."

Mission

We exist to make disciples who behold Christ and reveal Him.

