

LIVING IN THE BLESSING

Part 2 of THE GOSPEL WAY

The Cornerstone Youth Group. February 11, 2026.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Be gracious to us, God, according to your faithful love; according to your abundant compassion, blot out our rebellion. Completely wash away our guilt and cleanse us from our sin.

Lord, we pray with such boldness because you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to die as the atoning sacrifice for sins. By his shed blood, you reconciled us, forgave us, and cleansed our guilt. Thank you, Lord, for this precious gift. Amen.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

QUESTION:

When you hear the word ‘blessed,’ what pops into your mind?” (examples: good grades, winning a game, money, friends, family, health, good looks, talent, a calm life).

QUICK FIRE QUESTIONS:

- If someone posts ‘#blessed,’ what do you assume happened?
- Do you ever feel more or less blessed than other people? When?
- If life is hard, does that make you feel like God is holding out on you?

ANOTHER WAY OF THINKING ABOUT BLESSINGS:

Most of our ideas of ‘blessing’ are about stuff down here—grades, sports, money, comfort.

But Ephesians 1 says that if you are in Christ, you already have every spiritual blessing, whether life feels awesome or really hard.

Tonight, we’re going to unpack what those blessings actually are and how to live like they’re real.

EPHESIANS 1:3-8, LIVING IN THE BLESSING

LET'S READ THE BIBLE

Ephesians 1:3-8 (CSB) Blessed is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavens in Christ. 4 For he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless in love before him. 5 He predestined us to be adopted as sons through Jesus Christ for himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace that he lavished on us in the Beloved One. 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace 8 that he richly poured out on us with all wisdom and understanding.

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT THE BIBLE

- Circle every blessing you can find in the passage.
- How does God send his blessings to us?
- What can we do to earn God's blessings?

REMEMBER THIS:

1. In Christ, God has already given me every spiritual blessing that is needed for a relationship with him. There is nothing missing.
2. I did not earn these blessings. God gave them to me through Jesus.
3. I can live with God in these blessings with peace and gratitude.

APPLYING THE BLESSINGS

God chose me to be holy and blameless in His sight.

- Holy = set apart for God, acceptable to him.
- Blameless = as if I had never sinned/done anything wrong.

How does that affect the way I handle guilt after I mess up?

God adopted me as His child/son.

- Israel was God's adopted "son," bound to him by covenant.
- In the first century, wealthy people would ensure they had a male heir. Adopted sons were given full family rights and privileges.
- God commits to us, takes care of us, protects us, and gives us an inheritance (new earth) with the Son, Jesus Christ.

How does that impact my feelings about God?

God has fully redeemed and forgiven me through Jesus

- Redeemed = bought out of slavery; freed from our bondage to sin.
- Forgiven = our record of sin is wiped clean.

Should I go on living like sin rules my life?

Should I do all kinds of things to cover my sins, or trust in God's provision for forgiveness in Jesus?