

The Blessed Life – Week 1

Warm-up

Describe a time when you gave generously to someone else. How did that act of giving make you feel and what did you learn from the experience?

The Word

God instituted the possibility for liviing a blessed life for each of us that have received Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. We may ask ourselves, "Then why don't I feel like I live a blessed life?" Perhaps we have to learn to recieve the blessings of God by faith, and by obeying the Scriptures.

Read Proverbs 11:24-25

• What does God desire for each of His children? What do you think it means that He wants to "make one rich"?

One of the keys to the blessed life is a heart of generosity.

Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-8, 11

• Knowing that it is more blessed to give than to receive, why are not more people more generous; or another way of saying it, more blessed?

There are basically three different mindsets people can have towards giving.

Read Haggai 1:5-6

• What are some of the reasons that keep people from giving generously? What could be done to overcome these excuses?

This verse illustrates the "bag" mindset people have towards giving – feeling like they never have enough.

Read Deuteronomy 28:3-14

- Describe what generosity looks like in your life. What are some specific things that you currently have more than enough of? Think of tangible things like time or space too.
- Where can you see yourself meeting a need other than your own with what God has abundantly provided?

This verse illustrates the "basket" mindset people have of knowing that there is more than enough with God.

Read Proverbs 3:9-10 and Luke 16:10-13

- What are some specific areas in your life that you feel God is calling you to be more faithful with His generosity than you have before?
- What are some specific ways God has been faithful and blessed your life? What are some changes you are willing to make to be more blessed?

These verses illustrate the "barn" mindset and being faithful with the unlimited blessings God has given us.

Prayer

Thank God for all the blessings He has given you throughout your life by spending time praising Him. Pray that God will stir within you a heart of a cheerful giver and increase your generosity. Close by praying for someone in need and how you might help them this week.