



The Father's Blessing

WHY WE BLESS

God's plan is for blessing to flow from generation to generation. Blessing is the impartation of identity and destiny through words, actions and touch. Blessing imparts to us the answers to two key questions - Who am I? and Why am I here?

Our parents likely did not receive blessing in their lives, so could not give to us what they had not received. Much of what we understood as rejection from our parents was a lack of blessing, a lack of impartation of identity and destiny, especially at puberty where we made the transition to adulthood. Father God wants to heal the wounds and lacks of the past and bring us into the fullness of His promises for us. He will speak identity and destiny to us.

HOW WE BLESS

Most people have experienced emotional pain from the lack of unconditional expressed love or an inability to receive love. As we bless we first provide a safe place for their hidden core pain to be released to God and comforted, then we speak identity and destiny to the person in tender, gentle tones, with loving eye contact and affirming touch.

DO:

- Comfort with appropriate touch (same gender hugs, gentle laying on of hands)
- Make eye contact that expresses love
- Stay positive and use gentle, loving words.
- Keep the blessing short, simple and focused on receiving God's love.

DON'T:

- Overstep a person's boundaries without permission or embrace someone of the opposite gender (teams of male and female can minister appropriately to either gender).
- Use loud, harsh or authoritative words.
- Push, prophesy, counsel, do warfare, or try to fix every issue in the person's life.

BLESSED TO BLESS

If your parents are willing and available you can ask them to bless you. We also encourage you to share this blessing with others, inviting God to bless them.

Mark Burlinson

For resources and further information:

Shiloh Place Ministries

www.shilohplace.org

843-365-8990

Sample Father's Blessing Prayer

First, let me stand in for your parents and the authority figures in your life. There are words you need to hear that they may have never been able to say. Open your heart to forgive and release them as you hear these words.

My child, would you forgive me for my inability to show you true love? I wounded you in so many ways, causing you to turn your back on home, and move away from love. Would you forgive me for each time I failed you? Forgive me for my high standards that left you feeling you could never please me. There were times when I allowed life to drain me so that I had nothing left to give you. Even when I was there, I wasn't there for you. Please forgive me for failing to show you the love in my heart.

Would you forgive me for my rules and requirements that left you no option but to rebel or to feel defeated and crushed. Please forgive me for pushing you into my mold rather than calling you to be who God made you to be, and for all the pain that resulted. Please forgive me for leaving you without a safe place to call home; for turning my back on you and the family and abandoning you. God is not like that, and I misrepresented His love.

Please forgive me for the betrayal you experienced through my abuse – the words, the manipulation, the actions, the sins I committed against you. It was not your fault, and I ask your forgiveness for these ways that I lied to you about God

Please forgive me for failing to show you tenderness in words or actions, for not holding you or singing over you. I ask your forgiveness for placing parenting responsibility on your young shoulders, taking away your childhood. My child, I am sorry for every way I failed you, hurt you, misrepresented God's love, and added to your pain. Please forgive me.

(Ask for a response, give comfort and unconditional love if appropriate)

Now I speak a Father's / Mother's blessing over you (Speak out each person's name if possible). God has called you by your name, _____ and speaks your identity to you.

Father God has chosen you to be His child, called by His name, adopted into His Kingdom to inherit all of His love in Jesus, our Savior and Lord. We welcome you as a member of His family and we bless you to know your identity in Him.

Father God created you to know His love, to receive it and share it with others. We bless you to know this destiny in your heart and soul. You are called to live as a child of God, chosen and loved, forgiven and cleansed, released and set free.

Father God speaks His blessing over you now and releases you into the authority and responsibility of (wo)manhood. Are you willing to accept the promises and blessings of Almighty God and to do your best to walk in His ways?

(Ask for a response) "Yes, I am with God's help"

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you today and always. Amen.

