

Bethel Bible Study April 3, 2014

God's Basic Plan For Obtaining A Blessing

KEY VERSE: "... While they sleep The Lord provides for those He loves"
Psalm 127: 2b

1. Take a few minutes and share some of the things you are thankful for, especially some of the things that you can identify as not having come to you as a result of something you did:

2. Some time ago it was written..

"I am a confirmed believer in blessings in disguise. I prefer them undisguised when I myself happen to be the person blessed; in fact, I can scarcely recognize a blessing in disguise except when it is bestowed upon someone else." Robert Lynd

Can you think of a blessing in someone else you could see but the receiver could not see?

- We sometimes miss seeing blessings that God is in the process of giving us. Why do you think it is hard to see personal blessings?

3. Read Job 36: 11 (Job is oldest OT book written); James 1: 25 (James is the first NT book written); I John 3: 22 (I John was one of the last books of the Bible written). What is a basic requirement if a person wishes to experience the blessing of God on a sustained basis?

- What happens when we "blow it" and fail to keep the commandments of God? Does that mean we cannot have His blessing?

4. Read I Corinthians 4: 7. In this passage Paul asks the Corinthians a question that is supposed to help them learn a lesson and get rid of their arrogance. In your own words, rephrase the question and see if you can suggest an answer...

5. God makes certain undeserved provisions for people He loves. These provisions often go unseen, particularly if they involve the prevention of problems. In the following passages, see if you can identify the particular blessing that the author has in mind when he says: “You are blessed...”:

Luke 1: 42

Revelations 14: 13

Matthew 5: 5

Psalm 32: 1,2

Proverbs 14: 21

6. At this point, having looked at some passages that speak about blessings, see if your group can put together a definition of a “blessing”:

7. This week’s focus on care and prayer...

The Bible mentions the word “blessing “ hundreds of times – literally, and yet is surprising how infrequently we use the word personally, seek a blessing directly, or give a blessing thoughtfully to another human being.

God’s provision for good, and for our personal needs and sense of fulfillment come as a result of the unique unseen strategy regularly employed by Him called “the blessing.”

If you have the freedom to do so, take a few moments to confer, by means of prayer, a blessing – sincerely and appropriately – upon two people: someone in your group and someone outside your group.