

# Sermon Notes

## THE POWER OF A FATHER'S BLESSING

— June 2021 | Pastor Ben Dixon —

As we celebrate Father's Day, we find it most appropriate to focus on the unique and powerful role that fathers have in the lives of their children. Fathers carry a true and lasting impartation for their kids which the Bible would call "blessing." If you are not a father, this message can still apply to you, particularly in your relationships with family because we all have a responsibility to carry and release the blessing of the Lord in the lives of others. As we consider the power of a father's blessing let us pray and ask God to breathe on this vital role and responsibility so that our children can walk in all that God has for them.

- 63% of youth suicides are from fatherless homes. (U.S. Dept. Of Health/Census)
- 90% of all homeless and runaway children are from fatherless homes.
- 85% of all children who show behavior disorders come from fatherless homes. (CDC)
- 71% of all high school dropouts come from fatherless homes. (National Principals Association Report)
- 75% of all adolescent patients in chemical abuse centers come from fatherless homes.
- 71% of pregnant teenagers lack a father. (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services)
- 43% of U.S. children live without their father. (U.S. Department of Census)

**Genesis 49:28-33** – All these are the twelve tribes of Israel, and this is what their father said to them when he blessed them. He blessed them, every one with the blessing appropriate to him. Then he charged them and said to them, "I am about to be gathered to my people; bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite, in the cave that is in the field of Machpelah, which is before Mamre, in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought along with the field from Ephron the Hittite for a burial site. There they buried Abraham and his wife Sarah, there they buried Isaac and his wife Rebekah, and there I buried Leah—the field and the cave that is in it, purchased from the sons of Heth." When Jacob finished charging his sons, he drew his feet into the bed and breathed his last, and was gathered to his people.

### THE BLESSING OF YOUR INTENTIONAL WORDS

**Proverbs 18:21 (NASB)** - Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit.

**Proverbs 18:21 (MSG)** - Words kill, words give life; they're either poison or fruit—you choose.

### THE BLESSING OF YOUR PASSIONATE PRAYERS

**Job 1:5** – When the days of feasting had completed their cycle, Job would send and consecrate them, rising up early in the morning and offering burnt offerings according to the number of them all; for Job said, "Perhaps my sons have sinned and cursed God in their hearts." Thus Job did continually.

**1 Chronicles 29:18-19** – O Lord, the God of our ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, make your people always want to obey you. See to it that their love for you never changes. Give my son Solomon the wholehearted desire to obey all your commands, laws, and decrees, and to do everything necessary to build this Temple, for which I have made these preparations.

### THE BLESSING OF YOUR CONSISTENT PRESENCE

### THE BLESSING OF YOUR GODLY EXAMPLE

**Proverbs 22:1** – A good name is to be more desired than great wealth, Favor is better than silver and gold.

**2 Chronicles 34:1-2** – Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. He did right in the sight of the Lord, and walked in the ways of his father David and did not turn aside to the right or to the left.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is your next step to bring the blessing of God into the lives of your kids?
2. What consistent prayer or practice is God asking you to implement in your parenting?
3. If you are not a father, how can you release God's blessing to people in your life?