

## BLESS YOU

### NUMBERS 6:22-27

- **PRAY**

**(READ)** “Ancient Promises” from Our Daily Bread. “In 1979, Dr. Gabriel Barkay and his team discovered two silver scrolls in a burial ground outside the Old City of Jerusalem. In 2004, after twenty five years of careful research, scholars confirmed that the scrolls were the oldest biblical text in existence, having been buried in 600BC. What I find particularly moving is what the scrolls contain—the priestly blessing that God wanted spoken over His people; “The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you ” Numbers 6:24-25”.

In giving this benediction, God showed Aaron and his sons (through Moses) how to bless the people on His behalf. The leaders were to memorize the words in the form God gave so they would speak to them just as God desired. Note how these words emphasize that God is the One who blesses, for three times they say, “the Lord.” And six times He says, “you”, reflecting just how much God wants His people to receive His love and favor.

Ponder for a moment that the oldest existing fragments of the Bible tell of God’s desire to bless. What a reminder of God’s boundless love and how He wants to be in a relationship with us. If you feel far from God today, hold tightly to the promise in these ancient words. May the Lord bless you; may the Lord keep you”.

- **(READ)** NUMBERS 6:22-27

**ASK** What does it mean to you that God desires to bless you?

**DISCUSS:**

**ASK** When you ask God to “bless” someone or yourself, from these verses, what are the five things you are asking God to do?

**DISCUSS:**

- 1.
- 2.

3.

4.

5.

**ASK** When you offer someone a blessing, what are you demonstrating to them?

**DISCUSS**

**ASK** What do you think is required of us in order to ask for or receive a blessing?

**DISCUSS:** See Deut. 27: 9-10, also read Deut. 28: 1-6 and Deut. 29:5 for answers.

**ASK** What is the best way to prosper in life?

**DISCUSS:** See Deut.29:9, Deut. 6:4-5 with Matt. 6:31-34 for answers.

**TELL:** We studied the seven churches in the book of Revelation for two months, seven times in Revelation, God promises blessings upon believers. What are they?

1. Rev. 1:3
2. Rev. 14:13
3. Rev. 16:15
4. Rev. 19:9
5. Rev. 20:6
6. Rev. 22:7
7. Rev. 22:14

**DISCUSS:**

**(Vol. READ)** Psalm 139: 23-24

**ASK** Considering our relationship with the Lord, how can we be a blessing to those around us during these difficult times?

**DISCUSS:**

**In conclusion;**

**(VOL. READ)** from “Our Daily Bread”, SMILE.

“A recent study I read concluded that smiling can be good for your health. Research shows that smiling slows down the heart and reduces stress.

But smiling isn’t just good for you; a genuine smile blesses those on the receiving end as well. Without saying a word, it can tell others that you like them and that you are pleased with them. A smile can hug someone with love without giving them even the slightest touch.

Life does not always give us a reason to smile. But when we see a heartfelt smile on a child’s face or through aged wrinkles, our hearts are encouraged.

Smiles are also a hint of the image of God in us. In the ancient blessing recorded in the book of Numbers, we get an indication that God “smiles”: “The Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace” (Numb. 6:25-26). Those words are a Hebrew idiom for the favor of God on a person’s life, asking God to smile on His children.

So today, remember that you are loved by God, and that He is pleased to be gracious to you and to shine His face upon you.”

**A PRAYER;** “Lord, may my life be so pleasing to You that you are pleased to have Your face shine on me. And as You graciously smile on my life, may I find someone today with whom I can share Your love through a smile.”

**POINT:** Your smile could be a message of cheer from God to a needy soul.