

Group notes

2 Dec 2018

Being blessed & being a blessing

WELCOME

- What has been positive about the past week? Any good news? What are you thankful for? Have you got a testimony of what God has done?
-

WORD

- Read the following scriptures and discuss the questions.

Greek : Makarios (“Blessed”)

When God extends His benefits (the advantages He confers).

Greek : Eulogia (“A Blessing”)

Polished language, an invocation of blessing, a benediction, consecration, a (concrete) blessing, a benefit.

Luke 15:31 - Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.

Genesis 1:28 - And God blessed them.

Ephesians 1:3 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places...

Psalm 103:2-5 Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits: 3 who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, 4 who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, 5 who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Psalm 1:1-3 Blessed is the one who does not *walk* in step with the wicked or *stand* in the way that sinners take or *sit* in the company of mockers, 2 but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. 3 That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither— whatever they do prospers.

Psalm 34:8 - Blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.

Psalm 40:4 - Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord.

Psalm 106:3 - Blessed are those who act justly, who always do what is right.

Psalm 112:1 - Blessed are those who fear the Lord, who find great delight in his commands.

Acts 20:35 - "...the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

Matt 10:8 - Freely you have received; freely give.

Luke 6:28 - Bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

Deut 30:19-20 This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live 20 and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life...

- Have you ever been blessed by someone? How?
 - Have you ever blessed someone else? How? What did it feel like?
 - How would you describe God's blessing to someone?
 - Read the above scripture in Ps 103 again – how does each of the "benefits" apply to you?
 - Read the above scripture in Ps 1 again – what clues as to the lifestyle and actions of blessed people can you identify?
 - Do you feel blessed by God? Why?
 - Scripture says "It's more blessed to give than to receive." What do you think about that?
 - How can you bless others?
- Pray for each other, friends and family.