

## Principles of Prayer

### Lesson 6 “The Power of the Blessing”

I. Introduction - Introduction - We are in a series call “Principles of Prayer” because we began the year with 21 days of prayer and fasting. Our goal is to seek the heart of God so we can co-labor with him and see His will come to pass in the earth. I’m believing God is sending reformation and a major key to that is prayer. The will of God happens as we begin to pray.

#### A. Review

1. Jesus said my house will be called a house of prayer - **Mark 11:17**. Throughout the series I’m teaching about different aspects about prayer we need to understand to have a successful prayer life.
2. So far we’ve looked at the purpose of prayer, fasting (quiet our senses), and the authority of the believer. Last week we talked about the power of words.

B. Tonight we are going to take the study a little further and talk about the power of blessing. **This may sound like a little thing, but I believe when I’m done it will revolutionize what you think.**

## II. The Power of the Blessing

A. **Proverbs 5:15-19** In this chapter Solomon is warning against the perils of adultery and telling men to rejoice in their wives.

1. **Verse 18** says to let your fountain be blessed and to rejoice in the wife of your youth. How do we do this?
  - a. This doesn’t say to rejoice in your youthful wife. Why? We are all aging. If we are only able to rejoice while our wives are youthful, circumstances control us.
  - b. **Verse 19** goes onto say to enraptured/ensnared/ravished with our wives love at all times. How do we do this once the new wears off? How do we do this when they are no longer in their youth? **By the way, this principle applies for you ladies rejoicing with the husband of your youth too.**
2. The answer lies in **verse 18**: We are to let our fountain be blessed. Our fountain speaks of that which satisfies. Men is this on our wives to do, or is it on us? Ladies, is this on you to do or on your husbands to do for your foundation to be blessed?
3. bless - **bâarak**, to kneel; by implication to bless God (as an act of adoration), and (vice-versa) man (as a benefit); **This word is used 330 times in the Old Testament and the vast majority of the time it has to do with speaking!**
4. The idea is when we speak blessing over someone, we release God’s empowerment to help, bring change, and increase. example of Sarah - when she

was in her 60's she was so beautiful Pharaoh tried to take her to be his and then when she was 90 Abimelech tried to do the same thing.

## B. Examples

1. **Genesis 1:26-28** In *verse 26* He makes and in his image and gives him responsibility. In *verse 28* He spoke His empowerment to fulfill the assignment.
2. This is similar to the Great Commission. The disciples were given an assignment. They were told to wait until the promise of the Father empowered them. **Acts 1:4-8 Amplified.** This all happened as they prayed, empowerment hit and then they began to speak.
3. **Genesis 12:1-3** God gave both assignment and empowerment. **Genesis 22:16-18.** We still live in the impact of this today. **Galatians 3:8-9.**
4. **Genesis 48:9-20** Joseph brings his sons Manasseh and Ephraim to be blessed by his Father. Jacob crossed his hands and put his right hand of authority on Ephraim (the younger), and left hand on Manasseh the older. Joseph rebuked his Dad. Why? He was upset because he knew the power of the blessing that would be released. **Do we value the blessing this much?**

C. How do we walk in this? We must understand the blessing is voice activated. **Ephesians 1:3** says we are already blessed with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places, but we want experience that until we begin to declare it.

## III. Break into groups and pray

1. Assign group leaders - pray for one another and bless. Pray for our nation. Bless our churches. Bless our elected officials.
2. Offering Verse - **Galatians 3:8**