

BLESS: WEEK-3

Bible Verse: Matthew 25:34-46 New Living Translation (NLT)

34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. 35 For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. 36 I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.'

37 "Then these righteous ones will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink?

38 Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? 39 When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?'

40 "And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, [a] you were doing it to me!'

41 "Then the King will turn to those on the left and say, 'Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons. [b] 42 For I was hungry, and you didn't feed me. I was thirsty, and you didn't give me a drink. 43 I was a stranger, and you didn't invite me into your home. I was naked, and you didn't give me clothing. I was sick and in prison, and you didn't visit me.'

44 "Then they will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and not help you?'

45 "And he will answer, 'I tell you the truth, when you refused to help the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were refusing to help me.'

46 "And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous will go into eternal life."

DISCUSS:

How are you blessed? (Can you name some of your blessings - perhaps write a list of them? - Or maybe you focus on this for a few days - simply listing blessings and being thankful for these) How has God blessed you and your family? Why do you think He has done this? (This could bring up a lot of great discussion - do you think He blesses some and not others? Etc. Perhaps parents you feel a bit out of your comfort zone here diving into this discussion?- However - remember, you don't need to have all the answers.)



WATCH:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=az_VNIBFNSA (Why you're blessed to be a blessing)

DISCUSS AFTER WATCHING:

(This step is really really important, so again, we encourage you to not split these two parts up into different times/ days.) (Parents -- you may want to have an example of a conduit and a barrel - or maybe a container like a cup that could represent a barrel and a simple straw could represent a conduit) Go back to your lists (if you made them, if not - just be reminded of them) of blessings. In the video, he said if we just keep them for ourselves, keep them in our barrels, that we are forgetting where those came from in the first place...what did he mean by that? (listen again if need be at about 2:30 - 2:45) Are we trusting God to be the source of our blessings? If so, then do we have that peace that he mentioned in the video? Peace that God will bless us? Provide for us? That we don't have to store up, keep it in a barrel? Can we tip our barrel over and bless others?? Who can we bless as a family? (This could be fun to hear from your littles)

HOW can we bless them? (This can be even MORE fun to hear! LISTEN carefully to their ideas...kids are amazing at coming up with unique ideas!) Remember the videos and the people we've seen that lack clean water? (You could replay if needed) We have a chance to help bless them too. Here's a good chance to talk about the upcoming Walk for Water and how you and your family can be involved. Getting sponsors.

<http://team-z.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/20L-Walk4Water-Pledge-Donation-Form.pdf> Raising money over these next few months/weeks. A pop can drive in your neighborhood? Lemonade stand? What ideas do the kids have to bless these children of God?

PARENTS:

A few more ideas; donate a portion of allowance, do chores / extra work for donation money then put a jar out for the whole family to put their spare change into, memorize each week's Bible verse for money to donate.

PRAYER:

(of course you can pray how you feel led, or use this prayer to close). Dear Lord, you have blessed us and continue to bless us. Thank you for all the ways you have blessed us. Help us to bless others around us. To give them a drink, to feed them, to clothe them, to care for them in Your precious name. (Have the kids now pray for those children -whatever comes to their hearts - prayers of kids are so precious and we often learn more of what they are thinking as they pray.) Amen.

