

Open Arms
“Opening Our Arms to Bless Children”
Mark 10:13-16

1. The Longing for Blessing is in Every Person

a. Acceptance and Approval

- Love, Security, Value
- Confidence, Purpose, Strength

b. Absence and Consequences

- Confusion, Hurt, Emptiness
- Shame, Anger, Rebellion

2. The Gift of Blessing is for Every Child

a. Preparation for Salvation

b. God’s Blessing in Christ

3. The Power of Blessing is in Every Parent

a. God’s Representatives

b. Authority + Loving Touch +

Affirming Words = Blessing

- Planned and Spontaneous
- Attitudes and Actions
- Power of Prayer

LifeGroup Questions: Applying the Teaching to Our Life

1. Describe what your home/family life was like growing up.
2. While every child feels differing degrees of the descriptive words under point 1a.&b., which set of words was more prominent for you?
3. In what ways did your parents communicate “the Blessing” to you?
4. Read Gen. 27:1-41. How would you describe each character in this story? How does this story illustrate God’s blessing is not earned but is due to His grace?
5. Read Ephesians 1:3. Make a list together of the “blessings” to which Paul is referring.
6. Brainstorm together ways you can bless your kids or friends.
7. Who in your life is in greatest need of your blessing? How will you give it to them?

Core CHRISTlike Characteristic:

Relates with Other-Centered Love/Loving People

6-20-10