



SUNDAY 3RD MARCH 2024

Topic: Living Close to God in His Blessing

Psalm 128

Speaker: Ps Sam Toms

Sermon Notes

- Obsession with Wealth in the west
- We can see blessing as something we earn
- Psalm 128 paints blessing differently
- Blessings that come from a respect of God
- And an obedience to him
- Under His umbrella, protection and provision
- The ultimate blessing is God himself
- and the fruit he gives us, we become a pipeline of blessing

Small Group Questions/Discussions

We all enjoy being in a state of blessing. We enjoy having abundance and not being in need. The Bible at gives us an insight into God's character, and how he desires us to have good things. He longs to blessing his kids and he enjoys providing for us. The danger we have is that in following after him, we can expect him to bless and provide for us in ways that we want, not that God wants. The blessings he wants to give us are ultimately ones that last. Most of the things we pray for a temporary. The change God desires to make in us are lasting. The Holy Spirit plays a key role in bringing the blessings of God in us. When we give permission and we surrender to God, we enable His spirit to transform and change us.

This fruit God desires to grow in us is the best blessing we can receive. It has a lasting impact and a legacy on the people around us. We are blessed to be a blessing to those in our life.

Consider how the following fruit of the spirit listed in Galatians 5:22 ARE incredible blessings in your own life and in the lives of those around you.

LOVE

JOY

PEACE

PATIENCE

KINDNESS

GENTLENESS

GOODNESS

FAITHFULNESS

SELF CONTROL

Which of these fruit are lacking in your life? Consider committing to pray that God would generate this fruit in your life, and faithfully walk in obedience through the circumstances and storms that God often uses to generate this fruit.

It is often said it is more blessed to give than to receive. God wants us to enjoy receiving but ultimately be salt and light to a hurting broken world. The fruit he generates in us in the hard seasons help carry the message of hope that we have. The change in us is the reveals the authentic nature of a living God at work.

Proverbs 3:1-10 continues the thoughts presented in Psalms 128.

The proverb teaches on the significance of obedience and trust as a important factor in experience the fullness of life that God wants for us.

What areas in your life do you struggle to trust God with how he provides?

We can't always understand God's faithful provision looking forward, but when we look behind us, we can see his provision, his protection and his faithfulness at work.

Share moments of God's provision and abundance in your life. Where He has not just given what we need, but brought an abundance and a surplus in your life.

Pray that God would continue to grow the fruit of His spirit in our life, as we remain in step with his plan and have our desires realigned with His.