

Unlocked: Economy of Blessing

[Parents: Use this resource to teach your kids about what you learned in today's message.]

Today in Harborside Kids your child learned something different. Ask your child what they learned today and if they can say the memory verse: In a race, all the runners run, but only one gets the prize. Run is a way that will get you the prize. 1 Corinthians 9:24

Now follow this lesson to talk about the Economy of Blessings.

Everyone say "I am blessed!" on the count of three: 1...2...3..... I AM BLESSED!!

You are blessed! The Bible tells us time and time again how much God wants to bless His chosen and beloved people.

James 1:17 says this

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."

Every good and perfect gift is from God. Can you list 10 good and perfect gifts that God has given you? (as a family come up with 10)

Deuteronomy 28:1-14 are all blessings the Lord promises to give those who obey His commands. Read the passage and see how many blessings you can count!

God loves to bless His people. When God blesses us, His desire is that the blessings He gives us would be able to bless those around us as well! When we are spiritually healthy, God's blessings make more blessings for other people!

Sometimes we might not always know what to do with all the different blessings that God gives us. Paul gives us some great instruction in 1 Timothy. Read it together:

"Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others."

" Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

Luke 6:38

Rich in God's Kingdom =
Good works + **GENEROUS** + Ready to share

By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life." – 1 Timothy 6:17-19 NLT

Here are some ways to be a good steward of your blessings:

1. Act now/ don't wait!

Read Proverbs 6:6-11. What do you think it means? Discuss.

King Solomon, the wisest man on earth is trying to teach us to not put off for tomorrow what you can do today!

Have you ever said, "I'll do this later" and it never got done? Sometimes we think if we wait until the last minute, as long as it gets done, it'll be okay. But the Bible tells us, being prepared is a better way to live. If we choose to take action today, we will get ahead, and be better prepared for all that God wants to do later.

- If you have homework to do, should you do it now or later?
- You were asked to walk the dog, do it now or later?
- Tell someone you love them, now or later?
- Clean your room, now or later?
- Help a friend, now or later?

The Bible is instructing us to act now, and not wait for later.

That means we need to be listening to what God is saying so we know when to act!

Play a game of “Red Light, Green Light” to demonstrate how to respond quickly and not wait!

2. Think and plan ahead. This is something else we can do to be a good steward of blessings.

Vision Board

Make a vision board individually or as a family of some things you would like to do, goals you have, places you would like to go, books to read, foods to try, things that make you happy. For example: go to Disneyworld, have a dog as a pet, buy a car one day, buy a cool toy, have a superhero party, give a gift during the holidays, etc.

For all of these things to happen, it will require some planning and thinking ahead.

- Pick one item off of your vision board
- Make a plan for how you can see it happen one day(goal worksheet at end
- Do some research: figure out things like how much will it cost, how will I earn money, what does a dog need to survive, how many people to plan for, etc.
- Make a plan: create some physical steps/actions for you to take to make that vision come true!

When we think and plan ahead, we are showing we are a trustworthy steward of the blessings God gives us. We are demonstrating we responsible and prepared!



3. Share your blessings in different ways with different people

The healthiest, most balanced diet is one that has just enough of the five different food categories. Having some from each category ensures that we are getting all the different nutrients our bodies needs.

Just like a healthy diet, a way to be a good steward of your blessings is to share your blessings in different kinds of ways, with different kinds of people.

For example, it's good to bless a family member because you love them. But, there are lots of other people we can bless too! Like a friend, a teacher at school, someone we see in need, our local community. There are many different people and ways to bless others. This week, pick one person you haven't blessed before and think of a unique way to bless them!

4. Choose friends who inspire you to be a blessing and be a friend who is a blessing!

Pastor Kurt likes to say, “Show me your friends and I'll show you your future.”

The friends we have in our lives are a big part of us learning how to be blessings, because we learn from the people we spend a lot of time around.

More importantly than just picking good friends, we can choose to become a good friend and a person who is a blessing to others.

BUILD- A- FRIEND

Think about what kind of traits or qualities would be in a good friend, a person who is a blessing to others. After, talk about how you each can become a better friend and blessing to others!

BUILD-A-FRIEND

If you could build a friend, what qualities or traits would you want that person to have? Write them down in each shape!

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Goal Setting Worksheet for Children

Create up to three goals for yourself.

Goal 1

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Goal 2

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Goal 3

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Write down what you will do to reach your goals.

Goal 1-Action Plan

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Goal 2-Action Plan

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Goal 3-Action Plan

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What are some positive qualities about you that will help you reach your goals? _____

What might get in the way of you reaching your goals? _____

How will you monitor your progress towards your goal? (i.e. sticker chart) _____

