

# Fathers' Studies: Father/Child Relationships

"...that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

LESSON 28 OF 52

## PASSING ON A BLESSING

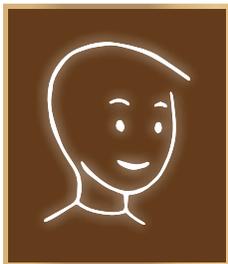
**LESSON AIM:** To show the importance of passing on a prayer of goodwill to children and grandchildren.

### KEY VERSE:

1. **MARK 10:14-16** Jesus invited the children to come to Him. He put His hands on them, and He \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
2. **GENESIS 27:38** Esau was so sad when his father could not give him a blessing that he \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
3. **GENESIS 49:28** As Jacob came near to the end of his life, he \_\_\_\_\_.
4. **LUKE 2:34** Simeon \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus and his parents by speaking words of prophecy about Jesus' coming ministry.

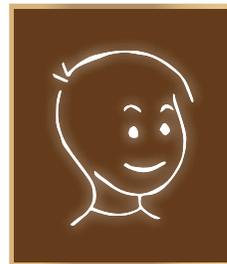
### PERSONAL NOTES:

## For You To Do



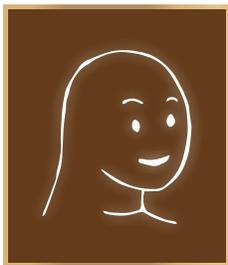
### By Yourself

Memorize Mark 10:14-16.



### With Your Children

Pray a special prayer of blessing for each of your children. Make this a special event which the child will remember with joy.



### With Your Wife

Make an agreement with your wife to pray together for each of your children at least once a week.

There is a little poem that says, "Only one life, 'twill soon be past; only what's done for Christ will last."- C.T. Studd.

As a father you often think about what you will leave behind you. You hope that your children will continue some of the things you started. You hope that they will have the same values you have. You hope that they will be honest, will work hard, and will be kind to others. You hope that your children will have the same faith in God that you have.

Some of the fathers in the Old Testament gave special blessings to their children. Isaac had two sons, Esau and Jacob. Genesis 27 tells the story of how Isaac blessed his sons. Genesis 48 and 49 tell how Jacob blessed his twelve sons and two grandsons.

Those blessings of the father to his children were very special. The blessings given by Isaac and Jacob had four different parts to them.

**1. PHYSICAL TOUCH** The father put his hand on his son. Touch is very important. It might be a hand on the shoulder, a handshake, a hug, or a kiss. A touch carries a special message from father to son.

**2. SPOKEN WORDS** The father had a special spoken message for each son.

**3. HIGH VALUE** The spoken words gave a high value to the person being blessed. The blessing described how each son was of great worth to the parents and to others.

**4. A PICTURE OF A SPECIAL FUTURE** Isaac spoke of a special future for his son Jacob (Genesis 27). A generation later, Jacob carried on that tradition by making special word pictures of the future for his sons (Genesis 49).

Children are deeply affected by the words and actions of their parents. Fathers, do you use your words and actions to pass on a father's blessing to your children?

A good book to read is *The Blessing* by Gary Smalley and John Trent.

**PSALM 127:3-5.**

**THEN DAVID RETURNED TO BLESS HIS HOUSEHOLD....  
(2 SAMUEL 6:20 NKJV)**

**A father's hope is to have his children follow in his path.**

**A father's blessing has four parts:**

- touch
- spoken words
- high value of person
- picture of a special future

## WINDOW TO LIFE

Years ago an old man decided that he would spend much time during his remaining years praying for his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

He gave one hour each day in prayer that his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren would all give their lives to Christian ministry. Shortly before he died he told his family that God had promised him that all his descendants down to the fourth generation would be in Christian ministry.

This tradition was passed down through each generation of that man's family. All of the children down to the fourth generation did enter Christian service either as ministers or wives of ministers.

