

FAITH PATH

Make the most of your moments

Dear Parent,

One of the core values of Grace Point Fellowship is family. We honor God's design of the family being the primary place for discipleship. The Faith Path exists to partner with you as you guide your child's spiritual journey one step at a time. Age-appropriate kits help you leverage the best faith formation strategy for your child's stage of development. In this Blessing kit, we have practical ideas and suggested resources to help you begin the process of blessing your child. We encourage you to start today by taking the following simple steps.

STEP ONE: LEARN

We have provided a video and information for this particular Faith Path step at gpf-tx.org/faithpath/blessing. You will hear from both experts and ordinary families as they describe the importance of blessing your child and share practical suggestions from their experiences. You will also find a guide that offers practical tips and what we consider to be some of the best resources on the topic. If you would like additional coaching or information on upcoming Faith Path classes or events, please visit gpf-tx.org/faithpath.

STEP TWO: START

To help you begin a daily blessing routine, this kit includes two cards to frame- a blessing verse and a "You are great because..." card. These can be trimmed and placed in 5X7 frames and displayed in your child's bedroom. We encourage you to make a plan for what part of your day works best to pour blessing into your child. Mark it on your calendar in order to help create a routine and start making your good intentions become reality in your daily life.

We hope you find this kit helpful in the process of forming the faith of your child at home. Know that we are grateful to play a role in your family's growing relationship with Jesus and are honored to help you make the most of your moments.

Joyfully Partnering With You,

Danny & Lorena Rodriguez

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Your Intentional Plan

How will you be intentional this next year?

- Pray daily for and with my child.
 - Consistently spend time in God's Word.
 - Bless my child daily.
 - Attend church regularly.
 - Other: _____
-

The next step on the Faith Path is Family Time at age four. We offer a Family Time kit to guide you through this next step.

To request a physical or digital download kit for your kids' ages, visit gpf-tx.org/faithpath or stop by the Home Point Center.

Recommended Resources

- ▶ *The Blessing* by Gary Smalley and John Trent
- ▶ *Bedtime Blessings* by John Trent
- ▶ *I'd Choose You* by John Trent

HomePoint[™]
Building Strong Families



Affirm Your Child's Value

*"THE LORD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU,
MAKE HIS FACE SHINE ON YOU AND BE
GRACIOUS TO YOU, TURN HIS FACE
TOWARD YOU AND GIVE YOU PEACE."*

—NUMBERS 2:24-25



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Every child needs to experience something Scripture calls “the blessing.” This guide can help you begin the process by imparting the kind of blessing only a parent can give.

What is The Blessing?

The blessing is a powerful tool with which we communicate acceptance and genuine commitment. The word comes from the ancient practice of weighing coins on a scale to determine value. Blessing someone “adds value” to his or her life. We see in scripture the word bless or blessing used almost seven hundred times. The Bible also gives us great evidence that our God is a God of blessing. We receive that blessing from our Heavenly Father and have the wonderful opportunity to pass it on. There are five basic elements of the blessing that, combined, have tremendous impact.

B – BE COMMITTED: The blessing is not a fleeting moment or mere symbolic event. It includes an active, long-term commitment to the child’s well-being by accepting responsibility to help them become all God intends.

L – LOVINGLY TOUCH: The power of a hug or placing your hand on your child while affirming him or her creates an important physical connection and communicates warmth, acceptance and relational health.

E – EXPRESS VALUE: Just like we add value to someone’s pocket by handing them a coin, we add to a child’s life when we use words that attach high value to them as a person.

S – SEE POTENTIAL: Parents best see a child’s natural strengths and foresee possibilities for their future. Giving the blessing includes picturing a special future and cheering them toward achieving their potential.

S – SAY IT: An effective blessing must be put into words whether spoken, written, or both. Simply being present is not enough to communicate the blessing. Words of affirmation are necessary for the child to know he or she is appreciated and accepted.

WHO NEEDS THE BLESSING? Everyone needs to experience unconditional love and acceptance from their parents. Those who didn’t receive it can spend later years trying to fill the void missed at home.

Those who did receive the blessing have a tremendous advantage in life. An example of this dynamic is recorded in Genesis chapter 28 in the story of Jacob’s two sons.

WHO CAN GIVE THE BLESSING? Anyone can give the blessing, but the most important and powerful blessing should come from parents.

WHEN SHOULD YOU GIVE IT? You can take advantage of special occasions and scheduled events to give the blessing in an intentional manner as well as capture informal, more spontaneous moments. You might want to start a nightly routine of blessing before bedtime or as you drop your child off at school or daycare.

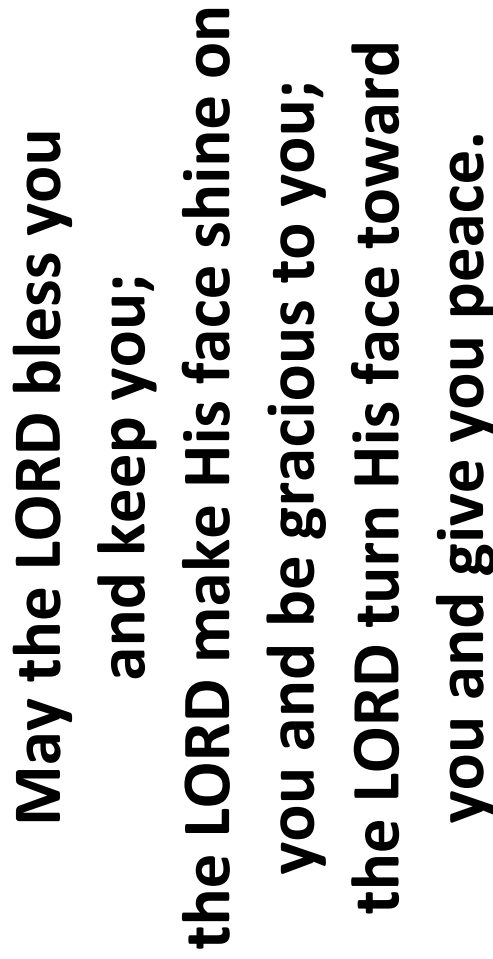
On the Go Blessings: Speak words of blessing to your child while driving to school, tucking into bed, celebrating an accomplishment or good effort or writing a note to place in their lunch. You can also frame the card included with this kit and use a dry erase marker to fill in the *You Are Great Because* phrase or create your own using any of the following.

- ▶ I was so proud of you when I saw you...
- ▶ I think God is going to use you in the future to...
- ▶ God has gifted you with a unique ability to...

Bedtime Blessing Prayer: Select a special scripture to pray over your child each evening such as Numbers 6:24-26 as quoted on the card included with this kit. Consider framing the verse to keep beside your child’s bed. Lay your hand gently on your child’s arm or shoulder while praying to reassure him/her with loving touch.



You Are Great Because...



**May the LORD bless you
and keep you;
the LORD make His face shine on
you and be gracious to you;
the LORD turn His face toward
you and give you peace.**

Numbers 6:24-26