**Sermon Notes**

“**Blessed to Be a Blessing”**

Genesis 12:1–3
1 The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. 2 “I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

Zechariah 8:13
13 Just as you, Judah and Israel, have been a curse among the nations, so I will save you, and you will be a blessing. Do not be afraid, but let your hands be strong.”

Luke 4:16–19
16 He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17 and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: 18 “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

Matthew 5:14–15
14 “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.

2 Corinthians 9:11
11 You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

**B.L.E.S.S**

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**Two Questions:**

1. “How do you want to use \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to bless the people in my life?”
2. “How do you want to use \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to bless the people of Nelson?”

**Questions for Reflection/Discussion**

1. What was the most convicting and/or inspiring aspect of this message for you? Why?

2. The B.L.E.S.S acronym is designed to be a sequence of building relationship in order to be a blessing to others. Some may argue, “We should evangelize people—that is our priority!” (i.e. Share Your Story). But how does skipping earlier steps (e.g. prayer, listening with care, eating together) short-circuit one’s ability to effective bless and impact others?

3. Read Genesis 12:1-3 carefully. What were the consequences and/or costs that would come as Abraham stepped into God’s vision to be a blessing to others? What are the implications for us?

4. What do you think would happen if our church family took practical steps to B.L.E.S.S. others this year?

5. Who are 2-3 people in your life who are far from God, who you could commit to pray for everyday this week?