

WHY DOES GOD BLESS US?

John 5.1-18 // August 2, 2020

GOD'S GOAL IN BLESSING US

Even though Jesus just healed a man who was paralyzed for 38 years, the Jews' first reaction is disdain because the man was "doing work" on the Sabbath. What's more, the man doesn't even catch Jesus' name, and seems to avoid any confrontation with the Jews. But Jesus finds the man later, and His brief exchange help us see part of His motive in blessing us.

Why Does God Bless Us?

1. He blesses because He is good. And when we see His goodness, we would turn our hearts towards Him.
2. When our hearts are turned towards Him, we are changed.
3. When we are changed, He receives glory.
4. When He is glorified, His goodness is on display, and sinners then see that goodness.
5. And we find ourselves back at #1 to continue this cycle of God's glory.

GOD'S GLORY IS THE GOAL

Jesus' words in verse 14 give us a clue to the effects of sin, as well:

1. His words may be pointing to current sin that is not necessarily a direct connection to his paralysis (bitterness, anger, drunkenness, etc.).
2. His words may be pointing to the fact that his paralysis was indeed the result of his own sin, either directly (e.g. liver disease, STD's, etc.) or indirectly.
3. However, not all illness or trials are the result of our own sin (John 9.1-3, 11.3, 4)

Matthew 5.16

**Regardless of the reason for our trials,
God's glory and Jesus being magnified is the goal.**

SPEAKING WITH AN ACCENT

In this life, there will be trouble. Some will be life-long, others will be temporarily in this life. And yet *all of them* will be ultimately temporary. In the meantime, we must decide how to walk through this.

**Thankfulness is the accent of Heaven.
Complaining is the accent of Hell.**

Philippians 4.4-9 // 1 Thessalonians 5.12-18 // Colossians 4.5, 6

**We know that we are often "too easily pleased."
However it seems that more often than not,
we are "too easily *displeased*."**

NOTES:

This Week's Scripture to Memorize:

Philippians 2:14-15

Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.

ARE YOU NEW HERE?

WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!

We'd love for you to **fill out a Connection Card** so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

Our childrens' ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. We have a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walkthrough of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email **Amber Willis at amber@lifemission.tv**

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Our **6th - 8th graders** begin each Sunday by **worshipping with the adults** and then head to their classroom with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service. Visit our website to read more about our junior high ministry and a walkthrough of our curriculum.

Our **9th-12th graders stay in the service** with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate high school.

For more information about our Junior High & High School ministries, email **Tyler Willis at tyler@lifemission.tv**.

Contact Us

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COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before group starts, who can share the **Memory Verse**?

Read **John 5.1-18**. What stands out in this passage, and what stuck out to you most from the sermon on Sunday?

Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

In 38 years, God did *not* heal this man of his paralysis. And yet eventually, He did. The truth is that there will be *many* things that God will not make go away in our life, and yet other times He will. What aspect of the Gospel do you see in this story that helps you keep your hope and trust in God even when you are in the midst of that proverbial "38 years"?

Repent and Ask for Provision

We don't know the nature of how this man became paralyzed, or what sin Jesus was referring to when He warned the man that he might face something worse than paralysis. It is easy to fall into any number of sins that lead us towards unfavorable consequences. In what way does your speech or tone reflect what is in your heart? Is your "accent" one of thanksgiving, or one of complaint? In what areas of life do you need to stop complaining, and find ways to give God thanks, so that you can "sin no more" and walk in life giving God glory for all that He has given you?

Your Life Mission

God has blessed you abundantly. More than you know. More than you give Him credit for, because His blessings toward you are innumerable. He blesses you so that you would glorify Him, and when you glorify Him, others behold His beauty, grace, and goodness.

What relationships or conversations are upcoming that you could use prayer for? Maybe picking up a relationship you have been giving up on?

End the evening in a time of prayer, praying through the theme of the night using the **P.R.A.Y.** model with your group. Pray for these people you have mentioned and for your heart and plan as you pursue them in love. Make sure to end your time of prayer **Yielding with Thanksgiving** for God's sovereignty and plan for your life.



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SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT US ONLINE

LIFEMISSIONCHURCH.COM

