



Grace Fellowship of Morehead, KY

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Be an **EXAMPLE** of the **BLESSING**

Message preached on Sunday Morning, May 18, 2025

Galatians 3:13,14,29

13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

14 That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

We have spent a lot of time talking about the BLESSING...and I mean a lot.

"Blessing" – empowered to prosper, to increase

I know many Christians would like to argue this...fight it...even tell me that I am greedy or a poor Christian for even preaching it.

HOWEVER: All I am doing is reading the Word of God. Preaching the Word.

God wants us blessed...

~ He wants us living behind His wall of BLESSING...

~ He wants us to enjoy the TOWB life!

That is why He sent His ONLY BEGOTTEN SON!

He gave us access to the BLESSING...actually gave it to us...and then has given us the parameters in which to enjoy the BLESSING.

AS A WHOLE it comes down to faith, obedience, and loving others.

Some of y'all say, "But I am doing okay by myself. Sure my life is tough, but I can handle it, Bible talks about suffering too, so I will just suffer and deal with it...rather than HAVE to do all this stuff (that seems inconvenient) and get the BLESSING."

WELL that is not smart, but I suppose if you really don't want to obey God THAT MUCH...

THIS WEEK: I spent a lot of time praying and asking for what I am suppose to minister on today..."anything, Lord...simply anything would be good."

About midway through the week the Lord began showing me something and it was good...but I wasn't going to preach on it (if you know what I mean)...Saturday morning I got up early (moved to the couch) and in the process of going back to sleep talked to the Lord, "seriously anything". He basically said, "I've already told you...so do it."

HERE it is.

If you are not pressing into the BLESSING for yourself...to be blessed yourself...

~ then do it for others, do it for the next generation who is watching you.

~ do it for the world, who needs Jesus and is watching you.

~ do it for beyond yourself.

~ do it for those who need your help.

Psalms 31:19 (NLT) – “How **great is the goodness** you have stored up for those who fear you. **You lavish it on those** who come to you for protection, **blessing them before the watching world.**”

This passage has been one of my favorite verses for a long while...not just because of the goodness of God that is being lavished on us...but because EVERYONE is watching us to see if it is so.

Romans 2:4 – “Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing **that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?**”

BELOVED: Living in the BLESSING is the BEST way to win souls.

Living in the BLESSING is the BEST way to make sure the next generation serves God.

BELOVED: What kind of example are you?

UNDERSTAND: Whether you like it or not, you are an example...ONE WAY OR ANOTHER!

2 Peter 2:4-6

- 4 For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;
- 5 And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly;
- 6 And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, **making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;**

1 Corinthians 10:11 (the Israelites in the wilderness) – “Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.”

(NLT) – “These things happened to them as examples for us. They were written down to warn us who live at the end of the age.”

All the things that the Israelites did...were put in the Bible to let us know what it is like to NOT live in the BLESSING, versus living in the BLESSING.

The QUESTION becomes, what kind of example are you to those watching you?

What kind of example are you to the younger generation. If they do what you do, will they live in the BLESSING...will they serve God.

We are ALL examples, and follow examples:

Acts 10:38 – “How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; **for God was with him.**”

Jesus was our prime example in life...He went around giving, healing, etc.

WHY? Because God was with Him.

HOLD IT...God is with us (Emmanuel).

A lot of people proclaim that Jesus was God...that is why He did what He did.

But here it says, He did what He did because God was with Him.

UNDERSTAND: If Jesus did what He did because He was God, it is still awesome, but it relegates us to mere spectators. However, if He did what He did because God was with Him (same as us), He becomes an example for us to follow.

John 13:15 – (Jesus said) “For I **have given you an example**, that ye should do as I have done to you.”

1 Peter 2:21-24

- 21 For even hereunto were ye called: because **Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example**, that ye should follow his steps:
- 22 Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:
- 23 Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously:
- 24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

NOTICE: Jesus is our example...because God was with Him.

John 5:19,20

19 Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, **but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.**

20 For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel.

QUESTION: Why did Jesus do what He did?

ANSWER: He followed the example of His Father. Not just what He said (several times in John), but also what He saw His Father do!

1 Corinthians 11:1 – “Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.”

(NIV) – “Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.”

Jesus did what He saw the Father do...Paul did what He saw Jesus do (which we all need to do)...but others followed what Paul did.

BELOVED: Is that okay with you? Others to watch you? Do what you do? Get what you have?

Philippians 3:17 – “Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.”

(NLT) – “Dear brothers and sisters, pattern your lives after mine, and learn from those who follow our example.”

Hebrews 6:12 – “That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.”

Use those who are following Paul and Jesus' example as examples.

Those who are walking it out and enjoying the BLESSING...use as an example.

BELOVED: And be those examples.

Kings Follow Kings

I noticed something as I was studying this area of being an example....and it came from reading a lot of it in the NLT.

Every king of Israel or Judah followed the example of another king...every one.

I noticed a king of Israel named Jeroboam.

- * Jeroboam was under Solomon, in his rule.
- * He began taking aim at the throne.
- * The prophet Ahijah even gave him the assurance that he would be king.
- * Solomon worked at stopping Jeroboam's efforts at the throne, so Jeroboam fled to Egypt and stayed there for a bit.

Now, this is where Jeroboam began showing his colors:

- * He married an Egyptian lady who was the oldest sister of the Egyptian queen. Not good!
- * He came back and eventually became king of Israel after Solomon.
- * Israel was the Northern Kingdom...Judah was the Southern Kingdom and Jerusalem was in the Southern Kingdom.
- * Jeroboam didn't want to keep going into Judah to worship in Jerusalem, so he set up two golden figures for them to worship in the Northern Kingdom. Very not good.
- * He was denounced by a prophet and went to lay hands on the prophet to kill him (not good x3) but his hand withered and was paralyzed (which was restored by the prophet).
- * He didn't change.

UNDERSTAND: Jeroboam did evil in the sight of God. Not only for himself but notice...

1 Kings 15:26 – King Nadab followed his fathers example and did evil.

1 Kings 16:2 – King Baasha followed Jeroboam's example.

1 Kings 16:19 – King Zimri followed Jeroboam's example.

1 Kings 16:25,26 – King Omri

- 25 But Omri did what was evil in the LORD's sight, even more than any of the kings before him.
 26 He followed the example of Jeroboam son of Nebat in all the sins he had committed and led Israel to commit. The people provoked the anger of the LORD, the God of Israel, with their worthless idols.

1 Kings 16:31 – “And as though it were not enough to follow the sinful example of Jeroboam, he married Jezebel, the daughter of King Ethbaal of the Sidonians, and he began to bow down in worship of Baal.”

He began building temples to Baal.

Are you noticing a pattern?

If no one steps up to be an example...the next generation worsens.

Hebrews 4:11 – “Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.”

Towards the end of Jeroboam's reign in Israel Judah got a king named Asa. He reigned over Judah for 41 years.

He was a descendent of David...third king of Judah (after Solomon).

2 Chronicles 14:2 – “And Asa did that which was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God.”

1 Kings 15:14 – “But the high places were not removed: nevertheless Asa's heart was perfect with the LORD all his days.”

He did good: He removed shrines made to other gods, cut down symbols of pagan worship, commanded his people to follow God.

NOTE: His end wasn't perfect...but he was a good example.

Asa's son, Jehoshaphat became king (25 years).

1 Kings 22:43 – “Jehoshaphat was a good king, following the example of his father, Asa. He did what was pleasing in the LORD's sight. During his reign, however, he failed to remove all the pagan shrines, and the people still offered sacrifices and burned incense there.”

He followed the example of his dad...previous king.

Revelation 1:6 – “And ***hath made us kings*** and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.”

BELOVED: It is our job to be the kings that God desires us to be...so those who come in after us take our example. Our kids...new converts.

I saw a statement this week, from Bethel church in Redding, CA...

Kings were created on the battlefield.

UNDERSTAND: It wasn't just that they were in the right place at the right time...lucky.

David's kingship was forged in caves, on the run, swinging slingshots, dodging spears, enquiring of God.

BELOVED: Don't look at your struggles as struggles...look at them as battlefields not there to break you, but shape you, forge you. Make you an example you were created to be.

Showing others and the next generation how to be KINGS and PRIESTS.

Showing them how to walk in the BLESSING.

Conclusion

Be HONEST...if your life was dictating whether the next generation was living in the BLESSING or even living for God, at all (church, giving, habits, etc.) would the church be in good hands?

1 Timothy 4:12 – “Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.”