

## GIVING THE BLESSING

June 18, 2017    Genesis 27    by Bob Branch  
A Legacy of Freedom and Blessing, Part 2 of 2

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### **BIG IDEA: What does it mean to give our blessing to our children (and those we love) and how do we give it?**

“he went to him and kissed him... he blessed him and said, “Ah, the smell of my son is like the smell of a field that the LORD has blessed. May God give you heaven’s dew and earth’s richness—an abundance of grain and new wine. May nations serve you and peoples bow down to you. Be lord over your brothers, and may the sons of your mother bow down to you. May those who curse you be cursed and those who bless you be blessed.”

**Genesis 27:27-29**

“When Esau heard his father’s words (his blessing was given to Jacob), he burst out with a loud and bitter cry and said to his father, “Bless me—me too, my father!” ... “Do you have only one blessing, my father? Bless me too, my father!” Then Esau wept aloud. **Genesis 27:34, 38**

“Naphtali is a doe set free, he brings beautiful words... Joseph is a fruitful vine near a spring, whose branches climb over a wall.”

**Genesis 49:21-22**

“I will bless you... and you will be a blessing to others... All the families on earth will be blessed through you.” **Gen. 12:2-3 NLT**

“the Holy Spirit, in bodily form, descended on him like a dove. And a voice from heaven said, “You are my dearly loved Son, and you bring me great joy.” **Luke 3:22 NLT**

### **1 Appropriate, Meaningful TOUCH**

*Before a word of blessing was spoken, there was the laying on of hands, a hug or reaching out to touch. Appropriate touch conveys in powerful, non-verbal ways, our love and affirmation – preparing the way for our words.*

### **2 SPOKEN Message**

*Biblically, a child wasn’t left to “fill in the blanks” whether they were valuable to a parent or grandparent. Words were verbalized, including written words today, that can place unconditional love and acceptance into the heart of a child or loved one. (James 3:10)*

### **3 Attaching HIGH VALUE**

*But what words do you say or write? The word, “Blessing” itself carried the idea that the person you’re blessing is of incredible worth and value – even as an imperfect person. In short, you’re helping a child “get the picture” that you see things in their life today, that make them special, useful and of great value to you. (Mark 1:11)*

### **4 Special FUTURE**

*With our touch, with our words that attach high value, come a response in a child or loved one’s heart that can be nothing short of transformational. The light going on in their heart and mind that the way God has made them, they can do more than they ever dreamed in living out a God-honoring future.*

### **5 Genuine COMMITMENT**

*Blessing a child doesn’t mean we never discipline them or point out areas growth. But children “know at an incredibly deep level if they have their parents “blessing” – if that mom or dad, grandmother, aunt, uncle or other loved ones really sees high value in them – even during the tough times. Genuine commitment is an unconditional commitment to an imperfect person that says as long as I have breath, I’ll be there to seek to build these 5 elements of the Blessing into your life and life-story.*

Concepts and language for this message come from “**The Blessing**” by John Trent and Gary Smalley. I highly recommend this book.