

SPOKEN BLESSING

Introduction: Words can bless or curse.

What is the spoken blessing?

- The spoken blessing serves as a conduit through which God's grace can flow to others, affirming their value and God's purpose for their lives.
- A spoken blessing isn't performance based, nor is it designed to build an individual's self-esteem.
- The difference between prayer and the spoken blessing:

Prayer is going to God on behalf of another.

Blessing is going to another on behalf of God.

How do we give the spoken blessing?

- Two types of blessings:
General blessing (Number 6, Levitical or Aaronic Blessing)
Personal blessing (offered either at specific milestones or "blessable" moments)
- Five elements of blessing:
 - 1) Start with a meaningful touch
 - 2) Express acceptance and love
 - 3) Communicate a high value
 - 4) Picture a special future
 - 5) Make an active commitment

Why is the Spoken Blessing important?

- The blessing is Scriptural.
- The blessing transforms hearts. (Reference Howie, aka Dr. Howard Hendricks.)

Closing:

Who are the Howie's in your life, the ones who need to hear that it's not about who they are but Whose they are?