

Living Beyond Blessed Robert Morris

Focus When we give generously and learn to manage what God has given us well, we begin experiencing life *beyond* blessed. When we follow this plan, we are using God's resources properly. He wants to bless us by channeling His resources through us to bless others.

Fun If it were within your ability, who would you bless and how would you make it an over-the-top expression of your appreciation?

Review Key Scriptures: Genesis 12:2; 1 Chronicles 4:9–10

1. It Takes Two Legs

The blessed life is comprised of two components: generosity and stewardship. When we are obedient to His Word, we want to bless others because God has blessed us. He has the supply to answer our need.

2. Why Talk About Money

God does not need our money because He owns everything. All we have is due to His graciousness. We are the stewards of what He has directed to us, and our heart attitude determines what we do with it. Giving is a blessing!

3. Being a Blessing

Because God loves us, He blesses us. When we are generous to others and are good stewards of what He gives us, He opens the windows of heaven and pours out blessings upon us. God implemented giving for a purpose—to be a blessing to others and to bless us.

Group Dynamics Idea After reading Pastor Robert's book, *Beyond Blessed*, consider asking group members to share something from it that particularly resonated with them.

Discuss

- 1. What are two important components to not only living the blessed life but also living beyond blessed?
- 2. "We *get* to *give*, not give to get" is the proper attitude to have when giving. It is realizing that God gives us opportunities and circumstances in which to bless others. How is this concept of giving improperly used at times?
- 3. Being a good steward means that we manage well all that God gives us. What can happen when we are not careful in managing these blessings?
- Explain this verse, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21). Give examples of how this verse could apply positively or negatively.
- 5. Read 1 Chronicles 4:10. What are the requests Jabez brings before God? How does God respond? Discuss ways we can apply the prayer of Jabez to our lives today.
- 6. To fully walk in God's blessings, we must learn to operate generously and to manage our resources wisely. Take a moment to quietly come before the Lord, asking Him if there needs to be a change in your attitude about giving and stewardship. Then ask Him to help you follow through with what you have been shown.

Take Home As we conclude, remember the following:

- God wants to bless us because He loves us.
- He has a plan for giving.
- God's plan involves generosity and wise stewardship.
- We are to bless others because God has blessed us.

Prayer

Lord, help me to give generously and to handle with wisdom the resources You have given me. Thank You for all of the blessings You have brought into my life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

| *New Leader Tip* Always begin your study with prayer, inviting the Holy Spirit to be present |
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| for guidance and understanding. |
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