



## Blessed

**Focus** God blesses His people. The main reason God blesses us is simple: because He loves us. God also blesses us so we can be a blessing to others. Many people have been blessed by God and every believer has a story.

**Fun** Did you like math when growing up? Which subject did you love the most in school? Which subject was your least favorite?

**Review** Key Scripture: Deuteronomy 23:5

- The first and greatest reason God blesses us is because He loves us. God loves us because we're His children and He created us in His image. God loves us unconditionally, just like earthly parents love their children.
- God blesses us so that we can be a blessing. Genesis 12:2 says, "I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing." God blesses us so we can be conduits of His love to others.
- As we see the numerous statistics which represent ministry, it's important to remember that every number has a name and every name has a story. When reflecting on how our lives have been changed by God and listening to the stories of others, let's ask God how He wants us to engage in ministry during 2014.

**Group Dynamics Idea:** As a leader, don't try to do everything yourself. Get everyone in your group involved in helping or serving in some way. Not only will it lighten your load, but it creates a sense of community and group ownership. People love the opportunity to become more involved!

**Discuss**

1. What's your favorite part about giving gifts to people? Why do you think God loves to bless us?
2. What are some of the ways God has blessed you?
3. Can you think of a time when you were able to do something to bless someone else? Share why that experience was significant for you.
4. What are some ways you can bless other people in your normal, daily routine?
5. If you were able to hear this weekend's message, what stood out to you the most about all the lives that have been touched? What areas of ministry are on your heart to serve, give to or become more involved in ministry with during 2014?

**Take Home**

As we conclude, remember the following:

- God blesses us because He loves us.
- God blesses us so we can be a blessing to others.
- All believers have a story about how God is at work in their lives.
- Ask God how He wants you to be more involved in ministry in 2014.

**Pray**

Father, thank You for Your amazing love. Thank You that You've blessed me because of Your love for me. Thank You for blessing me with salvation, forgiveness and eternity in heaven with You. Thank You for the numerous other ways You've blessed my life. Help me to be a blessing to those around me. Use me to be a witness to others as I bless them in Jesus' name. Please show me the ways You're asking me to become more involved in 2014. In Jesus' name, Amen.

**\*New Leader Tip\*** Remember, small groups are all about relationships! Be intentional to take time and do things that build interaction between the members of the group.