

## The Pronouncing of Blessings

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We can bless someone a few different ways. To mention a few, we can pronounce a blessing over them or pray a blessing for them. However, when we pronounce a blessing over someone, we're earnestly asking God to grant them our prayer request. We're pronouncing or speaking it into the atmosphere, and we're co-signing it in Jesus' name. When we bless someone in Jesus' name, God takes notice. In the Old Testament, Jacob pronounced a blessing on Joseph's boys, Ephraim and Manasseh. Often, a blessing pronouncement is followed by a laying on of hands, as Jacob did to his grandson.

As fathers, we should not only pray a blessing over our children, but we should also pronounce a blessing over our children. We want God to bless them as they go out and come in. We want the favor of God to follow them and go before them wherever they go. We want them to be in good health, be prosperous, love all men, and help those in need. They should be givers, not takers—that they are the lender, not the borrower. And most of all, we pray their relationship with Jesus Christ is first in their life, and they would love what He loves and hate what He hates. We pronounce their days on this earth will be long, and their lights would shine before men, that they may see their good works and glorify our Father, which is in heaven. We pray everything they put their hands to in Jesus' name will be given to them for His glory. This is how I pronounce a blessing over my children. Be blessed!