

## Life Church Message 2011-01-30 - The Blessings (Part 3)

- **The Blessings (Part 3)**

Pastor Eva - Sunday January 30, 2011

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- **Introduction**

- **Bible Reading:**

- OT Timeline:
- OT Contemporary Books:

- **Life Group Material**

- **Life Group Word Material**

These are sample discussion questions / topics. Your life group leaders may choose to adjust these questions, substitute new ones, or spend the Word section of the meeting in a different way altogether.

Scripture taken from the [HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION \(NIV\)](#) Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 [International Bible Society](#). Used by permission of Zondervan Bible Publishers.

- **Matthew 18:21-35 (New International Version, ©2010)**

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?" Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' The servant's master took pity on him canceled the debt and let him go. "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded. "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay it back. But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. "Then the master called the servant in 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

- **Discussion Questions:**

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- Reflect on the “Parable of the Unmerciful Servant” in Matthew 18:21-35. Have you ever, or are you currently struggling to forgive yourself or someone else? Discuss.

- **1 Kings 19:9-18 (New International Version, ©2011)**

There he went into a cave and spent the night. And the word of the LORD came to him: “What are you doing here, Elijah?” He replied, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.” The LORD said, “Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.” Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” He replied, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.” The LORD said to him, “Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu. Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him.”

- **Discussion Questions:**

- Describe a time when the Lord has spoken to you in a “gentle whisper” Has the Lord ever given you instruction, encouraged or corrected your perspective through prayer? Are you seeking a word from God now? Discuss.

- **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (New International Version, ©2011)**

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.

- **Discussion Questions:**

- Discuss what it means to “Rejoice always, pray continually and give thanks in all circumstances”. How are you doing in this area? Pray for one another regarding difficult circumstances that you are confronting.

- **Life Group Witnessing Activities**

- **1 Peter 3:15-16**

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with



gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

- **Questions & Answers**

We will have a Question and Answer session on Sunday February 6, 2011. Please write down any questions you may have.

We're especially interested in questions about the following:

- The sermons of the past 3 months.
- The scriptures we've taught from over the past 3 months.
- General Bible questions.

- **Submit Your Questions by January 31, 2011:**

- In writing with the offering on Sunday
- Via email to [life@lifechurchboston.org](mailto:life@lifechurchboston.org)

