



## Discussion Group Questions

Be sure to pick up a Bless Practices for each person in your group.

### Message Big Idea

Jesus' mission is to help people find their way back to God, and he lived out the B.L.E.S.S. practices showing us how to live that mission too.

### Scripture

2 Corinthians 5:15-21, Luke 19:1-10, Genesis 12:1-3, Galatians 3:7-9

### Points to Keep in Mind

- The Genesis and Galatians passage show that God has always wanted a people that would be a blessing to the world. Like Jesus, God wants us to be his people in the world, representing Christ to others.
- The 2 Corinthians passage reveals that God's people are to be the most inclusive, peace-loving, and reconciling people on the planet as we welcome others into God's family.
- Living your life to BLESS others is not about adding another event or program to your life. Living the BLESS practices is more about our posture towards others that is prayerful, generous, and hospitable.
- As you live the BLESS practices out with your neighbors, friends, and family, these practices don't always unfold linearly. Be open to the Spirit and what God wants to do in your life.
- Don't put pressure on yourself to make something happen or to get someone to make a faith decision. It's our job to serve

others and reflect Jesus to them; outcomes are God's department.

### Icebreaker & Opening Thought

1. Who has been a person who has blessed your life?
2. Opening thought: The mission of our church is lead people to follow Jesus. That means we are all part of it, all the time. If we're not sure what it looks like to be "on mission" then we might be *hoping* people find their way back to God rather than *helping* people find their way back to God. What is the difference between hoping and helping? Explain.

### Bible Discussion

3. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-21. What is Jesus saying about God's mission and our role in it?
4. Read Genesis 12:1-3 and Galatians 3:7-9. God has always wanted his people to be blessed to be a blessing to others. How is that hard sometimes?

### Life Application

5. Review the BLESS practices; they represent a simple strategy for living our everyday lives on mission. Which of these practices come most naturally to you?
6. Which practices are challenging for you?
7. Is the notion of living your whole life "on mission" a new one for you? If you started living your life in that way, what would be different about your life?
8. Who could you BLESS in your life now? Are there specific ways you could serve them?

### Challenge

Living the BLESS practices is not about adding another "thing" to your calendar, but it's a prayerful and generous posture toward the world that looks for opportunities to serve others and share the story of how Jesus is changing our lives. This week, let's pray that God would show us how we can BLESS the people in our lives.