

A **GUIDE**

*for blessing*

**YOUR CHILDREN**



*Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are children born in one's youth.*

*Psalm 127:4*

# *Blessing our children*



God has given us the joy and gift of being able to bless our children in His name. We see this modelled for us in Scripture. In Mark 10:16 Jesus, **“took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them”**. Blessing your child helps them understand their worth in your family and before God. Try to include these five elements when blessing your children:



## *1. Words of love and acceptance*

**Intentional words** are necessary to communicate genuine acceptance. Use your own words and write down the blessing in a place your child can keep it. **Ensure you verbalise the blessing.**



## *2. Placing value on the child*

To **powerfully convey** intentional meaning, the words must attach high value to the person receiving the blessing. In Genesis 27:27 and 29, Isaac uses a word picture to describe how valuable his son is to him. Word pictures are a powerful way of communicating acceptance.

- » Communicate your **child's value** through a word picture
- » Think about your **child's gifts**
- » **Emphasize** their talents, characteristics, and interests
- » Affirm **their hopes**
- » Reflect on their **name's meaning** if it affirms



### *3. Picturing a special future*

In the Bible, **God assures** our present relationship with Him and what He has in store for us as His children. We can let our kids know we believe they can build **an outstanding life** and future with the strengths and abilities God has given them.

- » **Provide security** by reassuring your child of God's plan for their future
- » Show that value them both in the **present and the future**
- » Be **specific** with your hopes for their future



### *4. Appropriate and meaningful touch*

Within Scripture, blessings **contain meaningful touch** from parent to child. (Gen 27:26a). The act of touch is key in communicating warmth, personal acceptance and affirmation.

- » Place your hands on their head or shoulders or consider holding their hands.



### *5. An active commitment*

Words alone cannot communicate the blessing; they need to contain a willingness to do everything possible to help the one blessed be successful.

- » **Provide opportunities** for your child to live out their blessing
- » **Support the value** and future that you envision for your child
- » **Remind them** of how God loves them and will **continue** to support them

## *Examples of Blessing prayers*



We thank you Father for our **beautiful and special** daughter Ella. Ella, may you always bring to others such happiness and joy as you do to our family. **May you remain persistent** in personality and use this strength to encourage and sustain others. **May God continue to cultivate** in you a heart of understanding, which can **be revealed** in your patient, tolerant and forgiving spirit. **May the Lord bless you with safety**, peace and love as you seek to live a life pleasing to Him.

Father, we thank you for the blessing of Milly and the **joy she brings** to our family. Milly, **may you know the Lord's love for you early**; hope in Him with all your heart and trust that He will guide your paths all your days. **May you have wisdom** and discernment in all your decisions and live in Godly purity. **May you be content in God**, and shine His light for all your days. We bless you and pray the Lord will keep you close to Himself.

Father, **thank you for blessing our family with William**, and the incredible joy he has brought to our lives. May you, William remain **full of joy as you grow in strength and wisdom**. May you grow to be a man of faith who always keeps the Word of God in your heart. May the Lord bless you with integrity, kindness and compassion. **May you live a life that glorifies Christ** and whatever your endeavours, may you do them with all your might. **We bless you**, William, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

