**Blessed to Be a Blessing**

**TEXT:** Psalm 67

* The **ONE THING: *We must be faithful in blessing others with God’s blessings***
* There are 2 things about being faithful in blessing others with God’s blessings:
1. **We must *remember the reason* for God’s blessings**

# READ v. 1

* From this first verse, we notice that the psalmist asks God for 3 things:
1. ***The request for God to be gracious to them***
* The word *“gracious”* is the same word as *“merciful”*
1. ***The request for God to bless them***
* When God blesses someone it means that *all of His promises are being fulfilled in them*
* The challenge: *Can we be satisfied with God, even if He never gave us anything?*
1. ***The request for God to face to shine upon them***
* God’s making His face shine on them refers to divine “favor and approval”
* **Nu 6:24-26,** “The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.”

# READ v. 2

* We notice 2 reasons why the Psalmist lifted up the petition in v.1
	1. ***God’s ways may be known***
* The word *“way”* can be translated as *“purpose”* and *“law”*
	1. ***God’s salvation may be known***
* The promise of blessings to the nations was given to Abraham
* **Gen 12:2-3**, “I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”
* Therefore, the reason why God blesses us is so that we can make God’s life-giving purpose and salvation to be known throughout the whole earth
* Jesus taught on in **Mt 10:8**, “Freely you have received, freely give.”
* Also the Apostle Paul taught in **Ac 20:35,** “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”
* ***In what ways have you been blessed by God?***
* **What would it be like if we lifted up this prayer as a church?**
1. **We must *recognize the results* from God’s blessings**
* We see several things that will result in being a blessing to others:
1. ***People will praise God***
* **READ vv. 3-5**
* We notice that the psalmist is calling for a response to God’s salvation, which is a calling for God’s people to worship
* We notice the plural in the word, “peoples”
* As **John Piper** says, “Missions exists because there are people who are not worship the true and living God”
* We notice that v. 5 is a repetition of v. 3
1. ***People will prosper with God***
* **READ v. 6**
* The word *“harvest”* can also be translated as *“produce”* or *“increase”*
* The phrase, *“will yield”* helps us to understand that the psalmist is referring to something in the future
* **Jn 4:35,** “Do you not say, ‘Four months more and then the harvest?’ I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.”
* **Mt 9:37-38,** Jesus said to the disciples “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.’”
* **Derek Kidner** said, “Let God, who brings much out of little and distributes it in love, bring such blessing on us as to make us, in our turn, the blessing of the world!”
1. ***People will prize God***
* **READ v. 7**
* The word, *“fear”* in the Hebrew is *“yare”* which can be translated as, *“reverence”*
* It communicates the idea of honoring God and seeing that there is none like Him
* *We must recognize the results from God’s blessings*

**LIFE APPLICATION:**

1. **Pray for God’s blessings**
2. **Pinpoint people to bless**
3. **Proclaim God’s praise**