



Grandparent Ministry

Lesson 6

Intentional Grandparenting

The LORD bless you, and keep you;
The LORD make His face shine on you,
And be gracious to you;
The LORD lift up His countenance on you,
and give you peace. Numbers 6:24–26



Word of the Day...

intentional

■ **adjective** done on purpose; deliberate.

Concise Oxford English Dictionary (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004).



No one ever oozed his way out of mediocrity like a lazy slug – C. Swindoll



Spiritual Practices (checking engagement)

8 Spiritual Practices Grandparents Used to Pass Faith on to their Grandchildren	Key Tool	Percent
Asking Questions: A practice used to generate discussion, create spiritual dialogue, build relationships, and understand what grandchildren believe.	Catechism	24%
Blessing: An opportunity for a grandparent to share his or her deep affection and desired future for a grandchild.	Spoken blessing	12%
Intentional meals: An opportunity to discuss matters of faith, teach God's Word to grandchildren, pass on family history, and talk about the events of the day.	Family table	12%
Prayer: The practice of praying with or praying for grandchildren. Common prayers include spiritual protection, physical health, salvation, and daily wisdom.	Praying Scripture	100%
Teaching: The practice of mentoring grandchildren by passing on wisdom that has been accumulated through a lifetime of experience. Common teaching topics include life lessons, social skills, manners, godly morals, and biblical truth.	Godly wisdom	52%
Reading and memorizing the Bible: The practice of reading the Bible with grandchildren, memorizing Scripture together, teaching grandchildren to develop spiritual habits, and giving grandchildren their first Bible.	The Bible	48%
Telling God-stories: The practice of telling grandchildren the work of God in their life, which includes a grandparent's conversion, God's provision, God's faithfulness, and God's presence in their life.	Personal testimony	36%
Sharing the Gospel: The practice of verbally stating the Gospel to grandchildren and inviting grandchildren to respond in faith.	Gospel Message	24%

Big Idea



- Grandparents must **deliberately** make life interactions God-honoring opportunities for passing along **truth** and **encouraging** upright living.
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Rephrasing the question

“What is the overarching goal God has for us in our grandparenting?”

What does God want us to be aiming at ultimately as grandparents?

- “Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children’s children” (Deuteronomy 4:9)
 - “We will . . . tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done . . . so that they *should set their hope in God* and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments” (Psalm 78:4, 7)
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Intentional involvement in our Grandchildren's world

- Having an inviting home
- Having dedicated time in a visit
- Attending school and extracurricular activities
- Scheduled check-in times

The key is intentionality—communicating to your grandchild by your words and actions that he is on your mind and in your heart

- Larry McCall

Intentionally Inviting Our Grandchildren into Our World

Expect great things
from God; attempt
great things for God
- William Carey

- Doing life
 - Fixing faucets, baking cookies
 - Pursuing adventures
 - Pray—more than just for safety
 - Service together
 - Engaging in Meaningful Conversation
 - Social issues and topics
 - Affirming our grandchildren
-

Giving a Blessing

[RightNow Media :: Streaming Video Bible Study :
Grace Based Grandparenting : Discovering the
Secrets to Heart Connection : Tim Kimmel : Grace
Based Families](#)



- Experience has proven that children brought up with a clear sense of blessing can move into a hostile future and do just fine
- Kids brought up without a sense of blessing may move into an adult world...and still struggle with a concept of personal value

Cavin Harper

“God is asking us to be conduits of His transformational grace.”

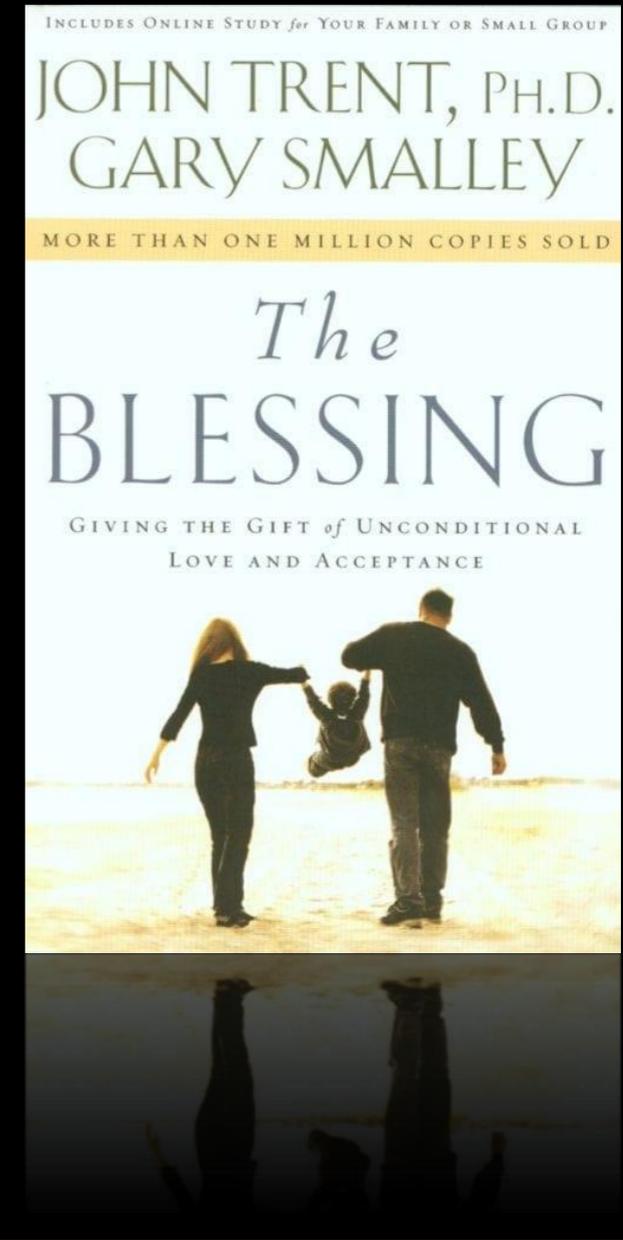
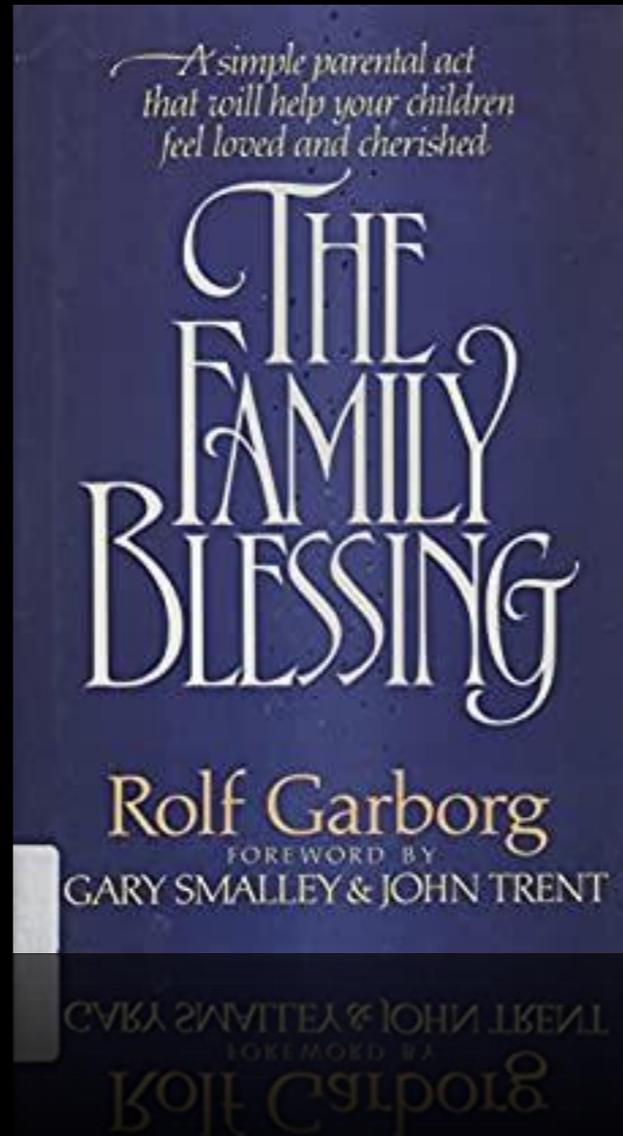
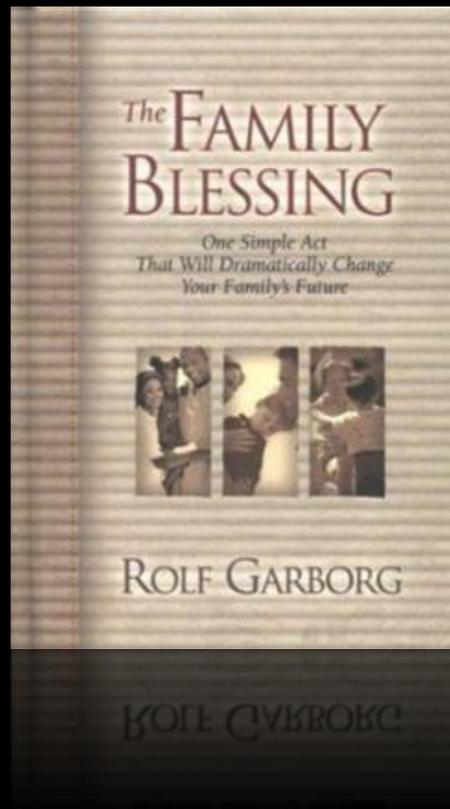
Blessing

- *A Message of High Value*
- *God Has a Special Purpose*
- *Our Declaration of Active Commitment*



- [Cavin-Harper-Unleashing-The-Power-Of-Spoken-Blessing on Vimeo](#)

Some Titles



Percy's Blessing



- Just as God has been with Moses, David, Peter, Paul and all of God's people, he will also be with you; he will not fail you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous, for the Lord has promised His Spirit to go with you wherever you go.
 - The word of God shall not depart from your mouth. Learn it, Live it, Love it and that will honor God and will make your way prosperous. For the Lord God commands you to be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, do not fear for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.
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Discussion Questions:

- How did your own grandparents intentionally engage (or not engage) in your life?
- If you had an intentional grandparent, what was it about him or her that made you feel that he or she was intentionally focused on you?
- What memories or traditions are you intentionally hoping to leave with your grandchildren?
- How do you pursue making those memories?



Discussion Questions:

- As you reflect back over this chapter, what are some practical changes you could make in the next month to be more intentionally engaged with your grandchildren?
- What activities are currently taking time that you could be pouring into your relationship with your grandchildren?
- What needs to happen to help you shift how you use your time for the benefit of your grandchildren?



Action Steps

- Add to your calendar the birthdays and anniversaries of your adult kids and kids-in-law. What other special dates might you want to include as reminders to send a card, a personal note, or phone call in order to express your love and appreciation?
- Plan a time when you can sit face-to-face with your grandchildren's parents in order to discuss with them how you can be more supportive of them as parents moving forward.
- Make a sincere effort to reach out to your grandkids' other set(s) of grandparents in order to get to know them better.

Three Needs
Every Child is
Born With

Security

Significance

Strength

- ***A Secure Love***

- Acceptance, Affiliated, Affection

- ***A Significant Purpose***

- Affirmed, Attention, Admonish

- ***A Sufficient Hope***

- Abilities, Adventure, Accomplishments
-

Blessing

Deuteronomy 28:3-6

3 *“Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country.*

4 *“Blessed shall be the offspring of your body and the produce of your ground and the offspring of your beasts, the increase of your herd and the young of your flock.*

5 *“Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl.*

6 *“Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out.*

What is the Blessing?



The Blessing is a life-changing gift of unconditional love and acceptance passed down from one generation to the next. Through The Blessing, children (and adults) find out what it means to be highly valued and loved by someone else using five specific actions first laid out in the Bible:

- Meaningful Touch
 - A Spoken Message
 - Attaching High Value
 - Picturing a Special Future
 - An Active Commitment
-

Blessing

בְּרָכָה berakah

from 1288; a

blessing:—benefit(1),

blessed(1),

blessing(48),

blessings(11),

generous(1), gift(3),

most blessed(1),

peace(2), present(1).

- ***The intentional act of speaking God's favor and power into someone's life***