

“Tipping” the Scales of Godly Favor to Children

Introduction:

- Jesus was teaching one day about the Holy Spirit and He made a comparison between our heavenly Father and earthly fathers. He said, “If earthly fathers know how to give good gifts how much more our heavenly Father.” Every good earthly father wants to give good things to their children because they love them. They want them to succeed. They want them to be cared for, etc. Good parents do that for their children. You want to do that for your children because you are good parents and grandparents.
- I want to talk to us this morning about imparting spiritually to children
 - The word impart comes from a Gr. word - metadidomi - to give, to share. To make known to another. To transmit to another.
 - *“For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established—”* (Romans 1:11, NKJV)
 - *“...we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us.”* (1 Thessalonians 2:8, NKJV) Notice the heart of Paul in these two scriptures.
- I want to share with you this morning three ways that you can impart spiritual blessings to your children and grandchildren. I believe wholeheartedly that when we do make impartations we ‘tip’ the scales of favor in their direction. I totally believe that something spiritual happens in those moments of imparting to our children and grandchildren.

I. The Power of Imparting Instruction

- A. The power of imparting instruction to children is a beautiful thing. When we impart instruction, we are sharing the Word of God, giving the Word of God, making known the Word of God to our children.
- B. The book of Proverbs is a great starting point if this is new to you. Proverbs is a book in the Bible that is made up of short sayings of instruction/truth. The Heb word for proverb is Masal “to become like, to be comparable to”. In the OT it may also imply an extended parable. “But the heart of the word means to look, observe, and see your own life under my judgment/observation/evaluation.” (Theological Wordbook of the OT)
 1. Proverbs are much more than little sayings they are dynamic life enhancers when unfolded and applied.
 2. They are truths that come from powerfully painted word pictures. Those pictures are so powerful that a person can set their life beside them and examine the accuracy of their living. They are so profoundly simple that the young can understand them.
 3. As parents and guardians of these little people, we believe the Word of God is Spirit and Life (Jn 6:63). Therefore, when we instruct children we are imparting to them the life of God. The more of the Word that they have and live the more favor of God is ‘tipped’ in their direction.
 4. Proverbs are easy to memorize and easy to apply to living. Truth applied regularly becomes a part of living. And there are many contexts in which proverbs can be applied. You can easily exhibit a proverb to your children as well.
- C. Proverbs are easy to write upon the heart and mind.
 1. *“When I was my father’s son, Tender and the only one in the sight of my mother, He also taught me, and said to me: “Let your heart retain my words; Keep my commands, and live.””* (Proverbs

- 4:3–4, NKJV) Solomon is remembering what his father did with him. That my friends is a generational connection! Imparting the word brought connection between the generations.
- a) Tender and the only one in the sight of my mother. Solomon had to be very young, and he remembered how special that was to him.
 - b) Learn to impart truth to your children while they are young. Application is vital; otherwise, it just becomes a story or a saying out of a book.
 - c) He taught me. If the truth is in the heart, it can be lived out.
 - d) Keep my command and live. He did not say keep my suggestion.
2. This impartation of David to Solomon and now Solomon to his sons was generational connection. There are a couple of places in the book of Kings, where a king four or five generation out, it was written, “and he kept the Word of his father David.”
- D. How do we impart instruction/proverbs?
1. You have to speak about it...often.
 2. You have to live the word you are speaking.
 3. You have to smoother with love. Don’t just talk about it when they miss behave.
 4. Dt 6:7 says that we must diligently teach these things.
 5. When we instruct our children in the Word of God and to obey it, we release blessing to them. Dt 28.
 6. Impartation happens when we instruct our children in the Word of God.

II. The Power of Imparting Blessing

- A. When I speak of imparting blessing, I am talking about activating the spiritual activity of God in a person’s life. “*And he blessed him and said: “Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth;”* (Genesis 14:19, NKJV)
1. Spiritual things are happening around us all the time. They are happening around our children all the time. Numbers 22 and 23 Balaam attempts to curse the people of God but God makes the curse a blessing. “*Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit.*” (Proverbs 18:21, NKJV)
 - a) If I understand spiritual things are happening around us all the time then I want to be blessing my children all the time. I want to be about ‘tipping’ the scales of favor in their direction.
 - b) I also must realize that when I bless my children, I am placing heavenly things into my generational line.
- B. What does it mean to bless?
1. To bless, from the Hebrew: *Barak*, to *endue with power for success, prosperity, and longevity*. (Theological Wordbook of the OT) *Its major function seems to have been to confer abundant and effective life upon something.* (Is 66:2, 1 Sam 9:7-13) God is the source of Life!
 2. When we bless we are releasing the life of God, who is the source of blessing in our lives, in our children. God desires to give His blessing to all who will trust Him. That is what makes Jn 3:16 so powerful. So if I trust that God is the source of life and I trust that I as parent can bless my children, let’s do it!
- C. We activate spiritual blessings in two ways: by the words of our mouth and by the laying on of hand.
1. Words:
 - a) “*And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: “Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, ‘This is the way you shall bless the children of Israel. Say to them: “The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His*

countenance upon you, And give you peace.” ’ “So they shall put My name on the children of Israel, and I will bless them.” (Numbers 6:22–27, NKJV)

- b) *“God spoke to Moses: “Tell Aaron and his sons, This is how you are to bless the People of Israel. Say to them, God bless you and keep you, God smile on you and gift you, God look you full in the face and make you prosper. In so doing, they will place my name on the People of Israel— I will confirm it by blessing them.”* (Numbers 6:22–27, The Message)
- (1) Aaron was a priest to Israel. You are a kingdom of priests/royal priesthood, according to 1st Peter. As priests in your home, you have power to bless!
 - (2) To bless I have to know what God has said. If He is the life source, and He is, they I want to speak what He has already spoken.
 - (3) Use your words to bless your children. Bless them before they go to school. Bless them before bed. Bless them before the big game. Bless them when they marry. Bless them on your death bed!
2. Through the laying on of hands.
- a) Gen 48:9, 14. Jacob blesses Joseph’s sons.
 - b) Number 27:18-23 Moses blesses Joshua.
 - c) The prophets blessed the kings through the laying on of hands.
 - d) The early church was seen laying on hands for healing, for empower of the Holy Spirit. etc.
- D. When you lay hands on your children and speak God’s word. You release grace, spiritual impartation, and spiritual activity of God into their lives.
1. Paul longed to impart to the Romans.
 2. Blessing comes from a heart that loves well and longs to share that love, grace, life of God with our children.
 3. I know you love your children, grandchildren and our children here at FCC. Speak the Word over them will all faith and all love!
- E. I can bless with instruction, I can bless with my words and the laying of hands. Let me give you a third way that you can bless children and generations.

III. The Power of Christ In Me Imparts

- A. The greatest gift we can give/impart to our families is our relationship with Christ.
1. I remember an apostle that we had come and ministered years ago and he said, “You can’t export what you don’t produce.” That always stuck with me. You cannot expect your children to walk in something that you yourself do not. The greatest gift you can give your children is your life hidden in Christ.
 - a) *“Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.”* (3 John 2, NKJV)
 - b) *“And you should imitate me, just as I imitate Christ.”* (1 Corinthians 11:1, NLT)
 2. Your life as a Christian, lived before your family, speaks volumes. Your life lived as a real Christian before children is a huge impartation to them!
- B. Your life in Christ stands alone as a generational blessing. Remember: “A generational blessing is God bestowing tangible benefits on a person or group of people as a result of a righteous act done by someone in a prior generation.” Arthur Burk
1. The day you chose Christ to be Lord of your life you received a spiritual impartation from God. **RIGHTEOUSNESS!!!** He made you righteous in His sight because of your faith! *“I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through*

faith in Christ. For God's way of making us right with himself depends on faith..." (Philippians 3:9–10, NLT)

2. That righteousness marks you. You are different, a new creation in Christ. You are filled with Light! That righteousness, that Life and Light, makes a difference in your family and those you touch in this life.
3. We want to grow in grace to bring more of God into our lives so that we have more to export! Remember, you can't export what you don't produce. What are you exporting in your home? Let me share something exported to me. It is a poem my father in law wrote inside his Bible. We found it after he died. And to you who did not know him, this is who he was to all of us:

I want the memory of me to be a happy one.
I want to leave an afterglow of happiness and laughter.
I want to leave the spirit of wisdom and knowledge in Christ Jesus.
I want to leave memories of many good times, lots of fun and few sad times.
I want only tears of Joy and the people to know I am with my Lord, Jesus Christ.
Only happy memories that I leave when my life here is done.
~ Herman

Conclusion:

- To impart means to give, to share, to make know to another.
- You just received three simple ways to bring generational blessing into your family, into the lives of our children here at FCC.
- You have been equipped to “tip” the scales of Godly favor towards your children.
 - You give the Word. You give blessing by speaking and laying on of hands. You live for God.