

Community Group Discussion Questions

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“How to Get God’s Blessing in Your Home” 2 Samuel 6:1-15 May 5/6

Getting Started

We’ve all heard athletes, actors, couples, and successful people thank the Lord for blessing their lives.

Where have you seen God’s blessings in your life lately?
Where has He made Himself especially known to you?

Going Deeper

There are 3 responses to the blessing of God in your life:

1. **Reject** it. **Read** 1 Samuel 5:1-12

After winning a battle against Israel, the Philistines captured the Ark of the Covenant (which symbolized the very present power and holiness of God). They thought it was just a trophy of war, but to their dismay, they began to realize that having the very present power and holiness of God was painful, burdensome, and deadly. They did not realize that God cannot be in the presence of sin. What they should have done was forsake their false idols and gods, and worship the true God. Instead, they were afraid of the true God because His holiness was oppressive to them, so they sent the Ark back to the land of Israel.

Some people see and hear about the blessing of God in other’s lives but reject it. Don’t be like them. **Read** 1 Samuel 6:6.

This verse describes the solution we need. We must not harden our hearts to God, but instead draw near to Him and worship Him.

On the scale below, where would you put your heart today, and why?

Hardened heart Worshipful heart

2. **Possess** it. **Read** 2 Samuel 6:1-10

David thought possessing the Ark was enough. He ignored the instructions. When bad things happened he got angry at God.

David's son Solomon summed it up nicely: Proverbs 19:3 "People ruin their lives by their own foolish decisions and then get angry at the Lord."

This is where most Christians are: saved and secure, but frustrated because there is no blessing that you hear so much about from others. You have the presence of God but you're afraid to approach and honor Him correctly, so you keep Him and His blessings at a distance.

What is keeping you from drawing near to God? What is keeping you from experiencing the fullness of His presence and joy and blessing?

3. **Obey** it. **Read** 2 Samuel 6:11-13.

Obed-edom was a Levite. He knew how to handle the Ark of God. Every day he woke up and went to bed with the presence of God. He obeyed and was blessed. He didn't touch it, or look inside. 1 Chronicles 26:4-5 tells us that Obed-edom had 8 sons and that God had indeed blessed him.

In New Testament times, since Jesus has died and raised again, Christians now have the presence of God in a different way. If you have trusted Jesus as your Savior, then you have the presence of God in you by the Holy Spirit. He's the one who convicts you of sin, reminds you of the Word, prompts you to act, gives peace in the storm, and directs your steps. Instead of needing to obey rules about how to properly show reverence to the Ark of the Covenant, we need to listen for the voice of the Holy Spirit, speaking to us through the Word of God, and obeying what He says.

When you spend time with God, what does it look like?
How do you hear God's voice?

Group Prayer Requests

Pray for all the mothers among us as Mother's Day approaches. For many, it is a time of joy as they are appreciated for their many sacrifices. For others, it brings sadness as they remember the loss of children, or disappointment as they reflect on estranged relationships with their children. Ask God to prompt you to reach out to a mother this week who might need special attention.