



SIMPLE WAYS TO

BLESS



A FAMILY ON MISSION

God explained to Abraham in Genesis 12, "I will bless you... and you will be a blessing... and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." God's strategy for reaching and restoring this world is simply this: to have His people bless the world. *We are blessed to be a blessing.*

What would look like if God's mission were the starting point of your life? How would it redefine your purpose each day? This pocket guide will help you live this kind of life by equipping you with the five simple rhythms of BLESS.

OUR VISION

...is to be a family on mission bringing the Good News of Jesus and the way of His Kingdom to every corner of Appalachia. We believe the BLESS rhythms of life will help us share Jesus with family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers in a way that is natural, relational, authentic, and personal. By listening to God, the voices of the people He has placed in our lives, sharing meals together and serving, we will have the opportunity to share the Good News in word and deed, where we live, work, and play.

This guide is an adaptation of a resource developed by the KC Underground.

BEGIN WITH PRAYER

“God, may your Kingdom come and will be done. Where are you already at work where I live, work, and play? How can I join You? How can I BLESS someone today?”

PRAYING FOR PEOPLE

Who do you live, work, and play with? Among those people, who has not yet decided to follow Jesus?

Pray that God would create spiritual curiosity in them, and then spend time with them.

PRAYING FOR PLACES

Where does pain exist here?

Pray for healing.

Who makes decisions here?

Pray for integrity.

Who throws parties here?

Pray for community.

Where are the pennies spent here?

Pray for provision.



LISTEN

2

“God, how do you want me to bless the world today? Help me to listen to and discover the needs of others where you’re at work.”

Before you can help others find Jesus, you need to listen to them first - their hopes, pains, challenges, and dreams.

In your interactions with others today, take the posture of a learner. Lay down your assumptions, and practice being present.

Pay attention to the local news and ask God how you can meet those needs.

3

EAT

Eating is one of the fastest ways to move a relationship from acquaintance to friendship.

Who can you eat with (or grab coffee with) that is far from God?

A co-worker over lunch? A neighbor during the day? A friend or family member over the weekend? Where do you regularly visit (coffee shop, gym, etc.)?

Ask God to grant you opportunities to eat with people.

SERVE

4

Before jumping into serving, have you taken the time to pray for, listen to and eat with these people? Doing these things first helps you discover the way you really need to serve them.

Who can you serve this week?

Who do you know that has a practical need? Ask them how you can help them. If you know how you can help them, just show up.

5

STORY

You can't spell BLESS without the second S. In other words, sharing the story of Jesus with others is necessary to participate in Jesus' mission (Matt. 28:18-20).

Tips on how to share the story of Jesus with others:

- Start by sharing **how Jesus has blessed you** and made a difference in your life. Your **God-Story** may be helpful here.
- Share your story in such a way that demonstrates that **Jesus is also at work in their life**.
- Don't feel like you have to tell your life story all at once. Think "**bite-size**" stories.

YOUR NEXT STEP



Daily:

Every day, intentionally look for ways to BLESS others.

Weekly:

With people you connect with on a regular basis, commit to asking one another this question, “Who did you BLESS this week?” Accountability will keep you from drifting away.

Get to Know New Community:

We are a community of people learning to live out BLESS rhythms in our individual contexts with the mission to bring the Good News of Jesus and the way of His Kingdom to every corner of Appalachia.

Path:

The Path Group is a 3-week, simple training designed to empower you to take your next steps in following Jesus as a disciple. Get more information:

www.newcommunitywv.com/resources

BLESS



BEGIN WITH PRAYER

I will pray for the people in my life and the places that I'm in.



LISTEN

I will listen to and discover the needs of others and the places where God is at work.



EAT

I will share meals and spend time with people in my life.



SERVE

I will respond to the needs of others and help them in tangible and impacting ways.



SHARE

I will share the story of Jesus and what He is doing in my life with others.