



Connect Notes – 01 June 2015

### **BLUE PRINT: BLESSED TO BLESS**

- Ps Phil Pringle

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.

**Ephesians 1:3 (NKJV)**

A blueprint is an original drawing by an architect or designer that the builders can follow and build exactly what was intended.

- It is important to read our instructions on how our brains and our bodies are designed to function.
- We are not just given the instructions (the Bible) but also the power to live it out.
- To activate the power in our lives takes a decision.

If you are in Christ you have been blessed with every spiritual blessing.

- In the context of worship and gratitude, we activate the blessings we already have.
- God uses past tense: “have been” blessed –it has already been given.

It can be easy to believe in God when life is good but when problems come along it can drown you in fear.

- Habakkuk had disaster fall upon his crops and herds but he chose to praise God and believe that God had blessed him despite the circumstances.
- Eventually our circumstances change to match the internal gauge of our faith.

This verse in Ephesians is like the book of Joshua in the Old Testament (Joshua 1:1-9 NKJV):

- God had already given the Israelites the Promised Land, but they had instead spent 40 years in the wilderness. In order to commit to taking the land, they had to cross the Jordan River.
- Sometimes people prefer to stay in a spiritual wilderness where God provides for them every day instead of crossing the river and entering adventure.

Once the Israelites had crossed the river and committed to taking the Promised Land, God gave

them a strategy to take Jericho.

- We likewise need to engage with the Holy Spirit who guides us with a strategy to appropriate the blessings that God has given us.

After defeating Jericho, one person created a spiritual blockage and Joshua went out without checking in with God first. It was a disaster.

- We need to consult the Holy Spirit even in the little things and deal with the blockages.

Gideon too was given a strategy. When we ask God what He wants us to do, the next question is "How?"

- Even when we make mistakes, the Holy Spirit is there to help us with a strategy.

- You can step out in the knowledge that God loves you, has blessed you and will be with you every step of the way.

You cannot have a changed life without changing your life.

- If you have never before committed to Church every week, tithed on your income, gone to presence conference, or given to vision builders, it would be something new that you can do to unblock and unlock God's blessing.

- To be a bigger person you need to do bigger things.

Blessing from God is not about getting, it is about giving.

- God gives to us so that we have something to give back to Him: it is for blessing others.

- We are better together. What we can do when we are generous together is amazing, blessing people around the world, many of whom you will never meet.

#### **TALK ABOUT**

**\* How does worship and gratitude help you to unlock God's blessing?**

**\* Is there something you can do to step out in faith that you've never done before?**

**\* Have you asked God for a strategy in what He wants you to do?**

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#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

##### **C3 CHURCH SYDNEY PRAYER MEETINGS**

Each week our locations are gathering together across the City, humbling themselves and lifting up Sydney to God. We would love for you to join us on these powerful nights.

**CITY / 7-8pm, Wednesday Fortnightly**

**OXFORD FALLS / 7-8pm, every Tuesday**

**PENRITH / 7-8pm, every Tuesday**

**ROZELLE / 7-8pm, every Tuesday**

**SILVERWATER / 7-8pm 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the Month**