

Priest's Blessing Prayer
for the 5th Week of March

■ **Text:** Numbers 6:22~26 (March 29 Text)

■ **Point:** God wants us to bless him, and He wants us to wish it to others.

≡ **1. Prayer**

Thank you, God, for guiding us with love and protecting us with grace.

≡ **2. Praise**

Give Thanks

≡ **3. The Word**

Read Numbers 6:22~26 together (read the verse 3 times).

* Repeating the text in different translations helps us to understand the material deeply.

<ESV>

22 The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 23 "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them,
24 The Lord bless you and keep you;
25 the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
26 the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

<NASB>

22 Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 23 "Speak to Aaron and to his sons, saying, 'In this way you shall bless the sons of Israel. You are to say to them:
24 The Lord bless you, and keep you;
25 The Lord cause His face to shine on you,
And be gracious to you;

Understanding the Text

God wants to bless His chosen people. So He told Aaron the priest and his descendants to pray a blessing for the Israelites. The prayer contains the words "blessing, protection, grace, and peace." The priest would have blessed the people with this prayer at the end of each meeting.

Understanding the text for leaders

In the wilderness of Sinai, the Israelites prepared to march through the wilderness according to God's word. What they needed more than anything else in the wilderness was God's blessing. God told Aaron and his sons how to pray for the blessing of the people. The priest's blessing prayer begins with "The Lord is..." This emphasizes that it is God who gives blessings. God is the source of blessings. On the other hand, idols are fake gods who cannot bless. First, The proclamation that God blesses us would have made us know what God is like and also let us realize the identity of the Israelites. Second, when God's face shines, grace comes to us, which means that we can live a life filled with God's grace (Malachi 4:2). Third, the meaning of God's "lifting up His face to you" means that God, who blesses you, is completely aware of you, knows your needs, and meets them.

4. Sharing

1) In each verse that begins with "The Lord is..." circle what God wants to give me, and write it down (verses 24~26).

Upper Grades

Underline the sentence that begins with "Jehovah," and find all that he does and write it below. (verses 24~26)

Lower Grades

What does Jehovah do for us? (verses 24~26)

Question Guide

Remembering that God is the one who blesses, protects, gives grace, and gives peace, read verses 24~26 slowly. In the sentence that begins with "The Lord is..." please circle the good things that God gives us, and guide them to seek and hope to enjoy those blessings.

Commentary for Leaders

God gave Aaron the priest and his descendants to bless the Israelites. In God's prayer, God emphasizes that God is the only one who blesses them. God is among the Israelites, and He is the One who accepts and blesses them. God is a personal person who not only blesses but also pays attention to each person and meets their needs.

2) Pray with the name of the person in place of "you" in the priest's blessing prayer.

Upper Grades

Do you have a friend who wants God to bless you? Explain the blessing you read today in an easy-to-understand way and give it to your friends.

Lower Grades

In verses 24~26, put the name of your loved one or friend instead of 'you' and 'yes' and record it on your smartphone and listen to it.

□ Question Guide

First, read the priest's blessing prayer with your own name. Then read it by the name of the person you want to bless. If you can't find the person you want to bless, you can give them a blessing through a phone call, voice recording, or video.

□ Commentary for Leaders

It's a God-given privilege to bless someone. The proclamation of blessing is an act of faith that proclaims, "God will bless ○○." When we pray for each other's well-being and peace, our hearts will be happy and the other person will be greatly comforted. It's better if you recite it and listen to it. God has made us who believe in Jesus a royal priesthood (1 Peter 2:9). Therefore, we have a mission to bless others with the spiritual authority that God has given us. God will bless those who do not neglect to share and proclaim the blessings they have received.

≡ 5. Be grateful

Give thanks for the blessings God has bestowed on you and your family.

≡ 6. Prayer

Thank you, God, for wanting to bless us and filling us with good things. We are encouraged to know You give blessings, grace, and peace to us.

- The family worship service ends with the Lord's Prayer.
