



**The Blessing of
New Life
Message 1**

**J.C. Thompson
March 19, 2023**

- 2. Divine _____.**
(Ephesians 1:3b,4-10. C/R: Galatians 3:6-18; Jude 24)

► Outline

Blessed is God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavens in Christ.

Ephesians 1:3 (CSB)

- A. Introduction**
(Ephesians 1:3. C/R: Job 10:15)

_____ vs. _____

- 3. Abundant _____.**
(Ephesians 1:3c,11-14. C/R: Malachi 3:10; Romans 8:32; Ephesians 2:4-5)

B. The Blessing of New Life consists of...

- 1. Responsive _____.**
(Ephesians 1:3a. C/R: Romans 15:6; 2 Thessalonians 2:14)

Answers: A. Surplus, Deficit B. 1. worship 2. provision 3. benefits
Resource Information: Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, a Division of Tyndale House Ministries, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved. C/R refers to a 'cross reference.' Today's outline and discussion guide are available through the Brookwood Church app.

► Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus. To connect with others, visit brookwoodchurch.org/adults.

Conversation Starter

What's your favorite worship song, and why?

Prayer

Pause for a few minutes to quiet your heart and mind. Then ask God for insight and direction as you study and reflect on this week's lesson.

Bible Study and Group Discussion

Read Ephesians 1:3-14

1. Paul praised God for the spiritual blessings he'd been given. How do you express gratitude to God for what He's given you?
2. God has given spiritual blessings to everyone who believes in Jesus. Do you feel worthy of such gifts? Describe how that makes you feel and how you can move into a closer relationship with God.
3. Do you live from a place of surplus or deficit? What are ways you can move into a posture of surplus?
4. What does it mean to be united with Jesus? How have you experienced this union?
5. How have your attitudes and actions changed as you've experienced God's spiritual blessings? How do others see you live out your faith? Share areas you can improve in your life so others see God's blessings.
6. Through union with Jesus, we receive the Holy Spirit, which marks us as one of His children. How do you allow the Holy Spirit lead in your life? Name additional ways you can let Him lead.

7. Believing in Jesus leads to worship, which can take many forms. Name different ways to worship. Which do you prefer and why?
8. Through Christ, God will make all things right, in His time. How does this make you feel, knowing God has promised this to you? How can His promise help you to deepen your trust in God?
9. As we emerge from difficulties, we see God's guidance, and it seems easier to praise Him. When things are going well in your life, do you praise God more or less? How can you remember to praise God in all circumstances?
10. What are spiritual blessings in your life that you may not have seen as blessings? Use those to help live from a place of surplus, praising God as you do.

Spiritual Practice

A spiritual practice is something we can do to help us live in and enjoy God's grace. Our hope is that these would become a regular part of your life, so that walking and talking with God is the most natural thing you do.

One way to help you praise God is to write out the blessings He's given you. Spend time this week journaling what you're grateful for and praising God for what He's done.

Memory Verse

Since He did not spare even His own Son but gave Him up for us all, won't He also give us everything else?
Romans 8:32 (NLT)

Daily Reading

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|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Day 1: Job 10:15 | Day 4: Galatians 3:6-18 |
| Day 2: Romans 15:6 | Day 5: Malachi 3:10 |
| Day 3: Jude 24 | |

Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, March 26, we'll conclude our *New Life* series. To prepare, read **Ephesians 1:18-20**.

