

“Blessed Beyond Measure”

“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.” ~ Numbers 6:24-26

Over the years, Numbers 6:24-26 has become one of my favorite scriptural examples of the Lord’s instructions to bless the children of Israel and those of us today who have accepted His Son as our Savior. Careful study of this biblical passage reveals the vast responsibility entrusted upon the recipient of these blessings. First, the enormity of these blessings cannot be limited solely to the recipient; second, thankfulness is the catalyst that helps the recipient know the blessings must be shared with others and finally, the challenge manifests in the recipient’s willingness to purposely seek out others to partner with them as partakers of the blessings. It’s often easy to express a desire to be blessed however, the mature Christian will righteously respond with “how can I be a blessing as a result of the bountiful blessings bestowed upon me?”

Note... blessings are meant to have a **“rippling effect”** just as water ripples when stones are cast into it.

As followers of Jesus Christ, we need not look far for opportunities to extend tangible blessings. The following are a few creative ways we can personally, one local or combined CWU units can share the abundance of blessings we’ve experienced throughout this year:

- Purchase/deliver fresh fruits/vegetables to a family that doesn’t own a car and lives in a “food desert” area.
- Volunteer to purchase a tank of gas for a neighbor, friend or stranger in need.
- Pay for a babysitter or week of day care for a working single mother or father.
- Volunteer to transport an elderly or physically challenged person to/from church, medical appointment, personal/grocery store, etc.
- Give local movie or restaurant gift cards to families to enjoy a “family fun night.”
- Create a personal/group prayer time for a bereaved family, social justice or human rights cause.
- Offer to pay a family’s utility bill or rent for a month.
- Adopt a family and provide “back to school” clothes/supplies/enrollment fees.
- Pay for the food of the person(s) behind you in the restaurant drive through.
- Organize tech-savvy youth to help tutor older adults with their computer/smartphone features (apps, emails, texts, etc.)
- Give “Uber Eats” gift cards to persons who may be homebound.

Our CWU movement was founded and continues today to partner with various agencies, organizations and Christian resources to ensure the multiplicity of **“blessings beyond measure”** we’ve collectively experienced are made available to those, in particularly women and children, who’ve been denied such as a result of unwarranted persecution, abuse, discrimination, poverty, injustice and human rights. When we’re intentional to share blessings, as suggested above, we demonstrate the tangible love and peace of God, transform lives and instill hope in practical ways. It’s one of the many ways we breath life into our CWU Mission, Vision and Core Values and repeatedly experience the **“rippling effect”** of Numbers 6:24-26 throughout our National movement.

Joyfully Submitted,
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CWU Spiritual Formation

