

Generational Blessings & Curses

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I. WHAT ARE BLESSINGS & CURSES?

BLESS: To invoke divine favor on, to bestow happiness, prosperity or good things of all kinds; to make a pronouncement of holiness; to consecrate, to glorify for the benefits received, to extol for Excellences.

O.T. Hebrew: barak - To kneel by implication to bless God as an act of adoration, to praise, salute, thanks . . . a posture of reverence . . .

N.T. Greek: eulogeo - to speak well, to invoke blessing, to consecrate, to cause to prosper

CURSE: a solemn utterance intended to invoke a supernatural power to inflict harm or punishment on someone or something.

O.T. from Hebrew: kurs, me'erah, klalah - to be made little, slight, insignificant, despicable; to treat with contempt; to shake off

N.T. Greek: katara - an execration (angry denouncement), imprecation (to invoke evil), curse (prayer to call evil or misfortune), malevolent (hateful, wanting evil) utterance

a) Blessings and curses are real

New Testament views: Christ's Redemptive work (Gal. 3:10-14); Jesus blessed Simon with a new name. Simon became Peter (Matt. 16:18-19).

b) Nature of Blessings & Curses

1. Pronounced audibly (can be written as well)
2. Invoke supernatural power from (God or Satan)
3. "Special" people possess greater power to invoke: ex. Isaac (Gen. 27) & Balaam (Num. 22)
4. Possess inherent power of good or evil in carrying itself into effect
5. Continue on in time - generation to generation
6. Usually are not just individual, but family oriented

The following definition is true for the nature of both curses & blessings (Derek Prince):
A word spoken with some particular form of spiritual power and authority for good or evil that sets in motion something that will probably go on from generation to generation.

c) Where did this power to bless and curse come from?

**Power to bless came from God's creation of man and the task He gave Adam.
(Gen. 2:19)**

Man was created in the image of God. God spoke man into existence. Gen 1:3 "God said..."

In naming, God gave man the co-creative power to call into fullness or being.

Jewish concept of name:

Names were regarded not only as labels; but also as symbols or supernatural keys to the nature and essence of the being or thing named.

After the fall the spoken word has two powers: to bless or curse. (Prov. 18:21)

Interesting note: Christians' ministries of teaching, evangelism, preaching, prophecy, healing and deliverance are all by the authority & power of the spoken word to bless.

d) Bible Examples of Blessings & Curses

Examples of Blessings

1. From God Directly to Abraham (Gen. 12:2, 3)
2. From Melchizedek on Behalf of God (Gen.14:18 - 20)
3. Transfer of the Generational Blessing (Genesis 25: 9 - 11)
4. Stolen Birthright by Jacob from Esau (Gen. 27:27 - 29)
5. Patriarchal Blessing from Israel to the 12 Tribes (Gen. 49:28)

Examples of Curses

1. God pronounced against the serpent (Gen. 3:14),
2. God pronounced against Cain (Gen. 4:11).
3. Prophetic curses pronounced by holy men (Gen. 9:25 ; 49:7; Deut. 27:15; Josh. 6:26).
4. Death penalty for those who curse father or mother (Exodus 21:17)
5. Cursing God or blaspheming was punishable by death (Lev. 24:10-16).

e) Practices of Blessing Children

It was customary for heads of families in their declining years to bless their children. Such blessings are not simply the paternal wish that their children should prosper in life, but a potent factor in determining their destiny and welfare (Jacob & Isaac Gen. 27).

N.T. ex. Matt. 19:13-14 Jesus laying hand and praying over children

II. THE CROSS REMOVES CURSES & RELEASES BLESSINGS

(Gal. 3:10-14)

¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us—for it is written, “CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE”—¹⁴ in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

a) At the Cross, Jesus exchanged our curses for blessings.

b) What is the “Blessing of Abraham”

(Gen. 12:1-3)

Now the LORD had said to Abram:

“Get out of your country,

From your family

And from your father’s house,

To a land that I will show you.

² *I will make you a great nation;*

I will bless you

And make your name great;

And you shall be a blessing.

³ *I will bless those who bless you,*

And I will curse him who curses you;

And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

#1 Genesis 12:1 ...to a land that I will show you:

God desires to lead us by His Spirit. He leads us to the place in our live to serve him.

He leads us to our spouse; our church; our education; our job & our calling.

#2 Genesis 12:2 And I will make of you a great nation,

He makes us a part of a great family; the family of God. (Not joined but born into)

#3 Genesis 12:2 and I will bless you,

He provides for every need of our lives. (Phil 4:19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.)

He gives us life abundant. (John 10:10. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.)

He does more than we can think or ask. (How? By the power in us; that is the Holy Spirit. Eph. 3:20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,)

#4 Genesis 12:2 ... make your name great..

He makes our names known by the demonic kingdom. (Acts 19:15 And the evil spirit answered and said to them, “I recognize Jesus, and I know about Paul, but who are you?”)

Jesus knows us by name. (John 10:3 ... and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.)

#5 Genesis 12:2 and you shall be a blessing:

He wants us to be a blessing to all people. (Most Jewish commentators agree that the word "*blessing*" also means material substance. Abstinence and poverty are not part of Abraham's mission, nor will they be that of the Jewish people. Abraham is to become a rich man. This happened when the Jews left Egypt in wealth. Abraham is to be the standard by which blessings are bestowed upon others. People who wish to bless their son will say: "God make you like Abram!")

Take the Gospel to the world; witness in family etc.; light in the sinful dark world.

#6 Genesis 12:3 And I will bless them that bless you,

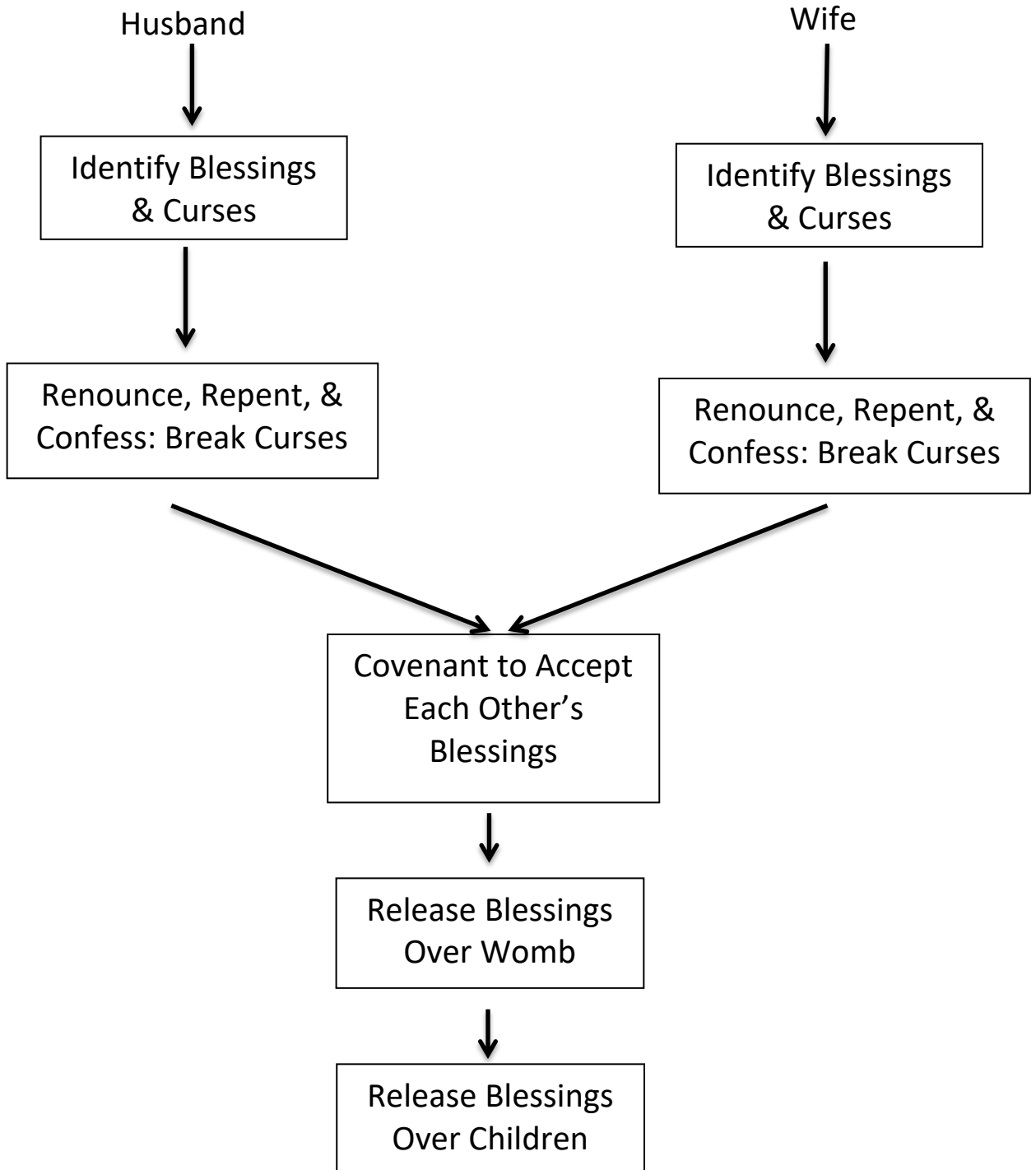
(God promises Abraham that other's success will depend on how they relate to him and whether they bless or curse him.)

#7 (Genesis 12:1-3) and all the families of the earth shall be blessed through you."

(The seventh blessing is the peak of the "crescendo" and represents the aim to which this new partnership between God and man is to lead.)

c) Every Christian can have Abraham's blessing as his/her basic spiritual inheritance.

III. Releasing Generational Blessings



A) IDENTIFYING INDIVIDUAL'S BLESSINGS

The following are ways to identify your blessings. (Adapted from James Goll)

1. Biblical Promises

Search out God's promises for your life in His Word! The Bible is full of "blessing" with you in mind! Ask the Lord to highlight specific blessing meant for you. Exercise faith and declare your Biblical Promises over yourself and your family. (ex. Abraham's Blessing)

2. Family Genealogy

Ask the Lord for help as you redemptively look at your family history. What is the family blessing that you are to call forth and pass on?

3. Ethnic Background

What is your ethnic background? Call for the redemptive gift of God for each tribe and honor the Lord with the gifts He has generationally bestowed! (Rev. 21:24; 26)

4. Church Promises

What is your church background? Call forth the "fire" of John Wesley; the purity of the Quakers; the power of the Pentecostals; the evangelical anointing of the Baptist; the prayer of the Moravians, etc. Are you a first, a second, third etc. generation Christian?

5. Geographic Region - City, State, Nation

What did the founding fathers of your city or state declare and write about your region? What is the redemptive purpose of your city? Were there previous revivals? Call the blessings into being once again!

6. The Meaning of Your Name

What does your name mean? Why did your parents give you that name? Call forth the characteristics and prophetic purposes of your name.

7. Personal Prophetic Words or Impartations

Have there been any gifts of the Spirit vocalized or imparted over your life? What has God spoken or given to you and your family? What promises has the Holy Spirit spoken to you? What blessing does God have waiting for you to fulfill?

Step 1) Each spouse identifies the blessings that he (she) wants to become the family blessings.

Step 2) Make a list of the combined blessings

Step 3) Both spouses covenant with God to establish the combined blessings as their family heritage (blessings) (Use Prayer of Covenant)

B) COVENANT TO ACCEPT EACH OTHER'S BLESSINGS

Individual's Prayer

Father God, I acknowledge my (husband's/wife's: name's _____) blessings from (him/her) and (his/her) past generational line that (he/she) brings into our marriage.

I embrace (his/her) blessing of:

(Use list of identified blessings)

Name the blessing #1 _____

Name the blessing #2 _____

Name the blessing #3 _____

Etc.

Father God, I purpose in my heart and mind to honor, to release and to nurture my (husband/wife: name _____) blessings in our marriage. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Couple's Prayer

Father God, we now purpose in our heart and mind to accept the following blessings as our generational blessings for our children:

Name the blessing #1 _____

Name the blessing #2 _____

Name the blessing #3 _____

Name the blessing #4 _____

Name the blessing #5 _____

Etc.

Father God, we covenant with You and each other to release and nurture these blessings into our children as their spiritual inheritance in Christ. In Jesus' name. Amen.

C) IDENTIFYING INDIVIDUAL'S CURSES

Common Causes of Curses:

Fathers who are not able or do not lead spiritually in the family

Mothers who dominate, despise, judge and criticize

Rejection at any age; including in the womb

Self-rejection, self-hate

Sexual sin which breaches the family covenant and breeds generations of immorality

Other major effects within families afflicted by Generational iniquity:

Distorted and negative emotions

Rejection from an early age, commonly from conception to birth

Mental illness and psychological/behavior problems

Addictions, including alcoholism, glue sniffing, soft and hard drugs

Sexual deviancy including Pedophilia, incest, bestiality, prostitution, adultery and illegitimacy

Early and premature death, suicide including children and teens

Inconsolable unrelenting grief process

False guilt and blame

Major trauma caused in warfare

False religions, cults, restrictive religious control, ancestral worship

Hereditary illness and predisposition to cancer

False and twisted belief system and familial traits

Defilements in the Womb

- The child in the womb may be defiled or blessed by what the mother eats or drinks. (Judges 13:2-5)
- The child in the womb may be defiled or blessed by the mother's psychological state (**Can fetus sense mother's psychological state? Study suggests yes;** November 10, 2011, Association for Psychological Science)
- The spiritual condition of the womb may impact a child's spirituality & destiny. The child in the womb can be filled by the Holy Spirit. (Luke 1:5-17; 39-45) (Thus, the child in the womb can be defiled by demonic spirits.) God installs a child's destiny in the womb (Eccl. 3:11)

JesusCenter Mom: Elizabeth/Mary Ministry (Mothers pray over pregnant Mom and bless the child in the womb)

When is womb prayer needed to cancel possible curses?

- Rejection by the mother or father	- Mother was sick
- Rejection by the siblings	- Mother died during child birth
- Wrong Sex, illegitimacy	- Abortion or talk of abortion
- Mother has fear from abusive situation	- Mother is depressed or stressed

All identified curses from both parental lines need to be broken off so they do not impact your children.

FAMILY PATTERNS

1. What are some common negative emotions in your family line that may or may not be in your life also?
 (example - shame, guilt, fear, rejection, etc.) _____

2. What are some common negative behaviors in your family line that may or may not be in your life also?
 (example - religiosity, rebellion, people pleasing, controlling, etc.) _____

3. What are some common hereditary health issues in your family line that may or may not be in your life also?
 (example - cancers, diabetes, high blood pressure, cholesterol, arthritis etc.) _____

OPEN DOORS, FAMILY SIN PATTERNS

Please identify the sin areas that involve you and your ancestors. The ‘S’ (self) column is for you and the ‘A’ (ancestors) column is for your parents, grandparents, and/or your great grandparents. Please check each area that applies. Please consider these items as honestly as you can.

Most family members are/were saved _____ **Most family members are not /were not saved** _____

A S	A S	A S
<input type="checkbox"/> Abandonment	<input type="checkbox"/> Demonic Torment	<input type="checkbox"/> Occult Involvement
<input type="checkbox"/> Abuse (Emotional)	<input type="checkbox"/> Depression/Grief	<input type="checkbox"/> Parents/In-Law Issues
<input type="checkbox"/> Abuse (Physical)	<input type="checkbox"/> Divorce/Separation	<input type="checkbox"/> Perfectionism
<input type="checkbox"/> Abuse (Sexual)	<input type="checkbox"/> Drugs, Legal/Illegal	<input type="checkbox"/> Post-Traumatic Stress
<input type="checkbox"/> Abuse (Spiritual)	<input type="checkbox"/> Emotional Abandonment	<input type="checkbox"/> Premarital Issues
<input type="checkbox"/> Abuse (Verbal)	<input type="checkbox"/> Failure	<input type="checkbox"/> Pride
<input type="checkbox"/> Addictions/Compulsions	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Secrets	<input type="checkbox"/> Rebellion
<input type="checkbox"/> Anxiety	<input type="checkbox"/> Favoritism	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Anorexia/Bulimia	<input type="checkbox"/> Fears/Anxiety	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious Issues/Legalism
<input type="checkbox"/> Anger/Rage	<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Issues/Problems	<input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Bondage/Issues
<input type="checkbox"/> Bitterness/Criticalness	<input type="checkbox"/> Freemasonry	<input type="checkbox"/> Shame Condemnation
<input type="checkbox"/> Bound/Hindered Emotions	<input type="checkbox"/> Gender Identity Confusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Sleep Problems
<input type="checkbox"/> Chronic Illness	<input type="checkbox"/> Idolatry	<input type="checkbox"/> Strife/Division
<input type="checkbox"/> Confusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Job Related Issues	<input type="checkbox"/> Suicidal Thoughts/Attempts
<input type="checkbox"/> Communication (Lack Of)	<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Intimacy	<input type="checkbox"/> Trauma
<input type="checkbox"/> Control Issues	<input type="checkbox"/> Legal Issues/Problems	<input type="checkbox"/> Unbelief/Doubt
<input type="checkbox"/> Cult Involvement	<input type="checkbox"/> Loss	<input type="checkbox"/> Unfulfilled Lives
<input type="checkbox"/> Cutting	<input type="checkbox"/> Marital Issues	<input type="checkbox"/> Unforgiveness
<input type="checkbox"/> Cyber Sex	<input type="checkbox"/> Neglect	<input type="checkbox"/> Unworthiness/Inferiority
<input type="checkbox"/> Death, Premature Death	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Illness	<input type="checkbox"/> Victimization/Passivity
<input type="checkbox"/> Deception, Lying	<input type="checkbox"/> New Age/Gothic	<input type="checkbox"/> Violence
<input type="checkbox"/> Deceptive Business Practice	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Wanted/Outsider	<input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawal

D) HOW TO BREAK -OFF GENERATIONAL CURSES FOR YOURSELF?

Need to pray a substitutional prayer of forgiveness, repentance and renouncement.

Substitutional prayer (Neh. 1:5-11) Nehemiah identified with the sins of his forefather.
“⁶...I and my forefathers have sinned.⁷We have dealt very corruptly...”

Forgive: Ask forgiveness for your ancestors and you

Repent: Repent on behalf of your ancestors and you

Renounce: Renounce benefits, relationships, covenants, and agreements etc. for your ancestors or for yourself if you also participated

Breaking Generational Curses

Heavenly Father,

I come to You on behalf of my forefathers, my family line and for myself to ask Your forgiveness for the unjust and unrighteous deeds of (use list of generational sins) name the specific deeds:

#1 _____

#2 _____ Etc.

I also ask Your forgiveness for we have made with the kingdom of darkness, the following covenants and agreements:

(use list of identified generational covenants) name the specific covenant & agreements:

#1 _____

#2 _____ Etc.

In our ignorance, foolishness and wickedness we have sinned against You.

I repent on behalf of our wicked deeds and our covenants and agreements with darkness.

I renounce all ungodly covenants and the false benefits we received into my family line.

In the name of Jesus, I void and annul any and all unholy covenants and agreements made by my forefathers and myself.

I break-off all curses on my bloodline and bind all demons that attacked us because of the curses.

I ask the blood of Christ to cleanse and cover me. I place the Cross of Jesus between me and my past generations; and declare my children are free from my previous generational curses.

In Jesus' name. Amen

E) IMPORTANCE OF ONENESS AS A COUPLE

The number one blessing for a child is being loved and knowing the parents are in a loving relationship in Christ. Parents living in unity (or oneness in Christ) release the Shalom of the Lord over their children.

(For single parents; the number one blessing for your child is being loved by you in Christ.)

The most powerful prayers on earth are prayers from Christian couples walking in unity. Why?

1) The Lord's Promise When Prayer is in Unity

(...if two of you agree on earth...) Matt. 18:18-20

Power to bind & loosen: releases blessings & break-off curses

The highest possible experienced of unity on earth is "the two shall become one flesh." It is liken to Christ and the Church. (Eph. 5:32)

How can couples walk in unity?

1Pet. 3:1-7

Wives, likewise, *be submissive* to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives, ² when they observe your chaste conduct *accompanied* by fear. ³ Do not let your adornment be *merely* outward—arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on *fine* apparel—⁴ rather *let it be* the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible *beauty* of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God. ⁵ For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being **submissive** to their own husbands, ⁶ as Sarah *obeyed* Abraham, calling him lord, whose daughters you are if you do good and are not afraid with any terror.

⁷ Husbands, likewise, dwell with *them* with *understanding, giving honor* to the wife, as to the **weaker** vessel, and as *being* heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.

Eph. 5:22-33

²² Wives, *be subject* to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the *head* of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself *being* the Savior of the body. ²⁴ But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives *ought to be* to their husbands in everything.

²⁵ Husbands, *love* your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,... ²⁸ So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; ²⁹ for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also *does* the church, ³⁰ because we are members of His body. ³¹ FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND SHALL BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND *THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH.* ³² *This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.* ³³ Nevertheless, each individual

among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must *see to it* that she **respects** her husband.

Women are asked to submit, obey and respect.

“submission or submit” (G 5293; “hupotasso”: placed or arranged under like a shelter (under the protection, provision, safety & warmth), governed (a military concept)
“Submission” is in the context of ranks in the army.

“obey” (G5219 hupEkousen) from root (G5259) listen, pay attention; not obey as children (Eph. 6:1) and slaves (Eph. 6:5) are to “obey” (G 5299; respond to command).

“weaker” (G772) comparatively weak in terms of physical strength

“Respect” (G 5399) “phobetai”; to defer - pull back or reverently (think highly of, value)
obey

Men are expected to love, understand and honor.

“love”: agapao (G25): unconditional love (love of God)

“understanding”: gnosin (G1108) “knowledge”, root word (ginosko) relational knowing or understanding: John 10:15 (Same knowing between Jesus & the Father)

“honor” timEn (G5092): honor, value, respect, nobility

Since love is the higher requirement; unity in marriage should be initiated by the husband.

2) Hindrances to Oneness may need to be removed

“Break off Ungodly Soul Ties”

3) Both spouses covenant with God to establish the combined blessings as the family blessings

F) How to Break- off Curses for Your Children?

- 1) Identify potential curses. Use your personal list of generational curses as a reference. Ask the Holy Spirit for revelation of specific curses that may be associated with your child.
- 2) The best way to break off curses for children is first have the parents break them off of themselves. (Parents are the door keepers to the demonic over their households.)
- 3) Craft a Prayer of Breaking-Off
 - Use non-fear filled words
 - o Non-fear filled words: “Enemy” instead of “Satan” or “demons”; “negative influences” instead of “curses”; “defilement” instead of “dirty”
 - Declarative or petitional (depends on personal comfort)
 - o Declarative: “I break-off _____, in Jesus’ name.” “I command every defilement of _____ to break-off of _____, in Jesus’ name.”
 - o Petitional: “Father, would you break-off _____? In Jesus’ name.”
- 4) End with blessings in the opposite spirit (Speak prophetically)
 - Opposite spirit (use the fruit of the Holy Spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control): A child with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD): “I bless you with focus and the peace of the Lord in the Holy Spirit.”
- 5) Minister Prayer
 - children in the womb: lay hand on the womb & pray gently with faith
 - birth to pre-adolescent: while asleep, lay hand on the head & pray gently with faith
 - pre-adolescent & older: lay hand on the head & pray gently with faith out loud

G) How to Release Blessings Over Your Children?

Jesus blessed the children by laying hand and praying over them. (Matt. 19:13-14)

- 1) Identify potential blessings. Use your personal list of generational blessings and or Abraham's Blessings as a reference. Ask the Holy Spirit for revelation of specific blessings that may also apply to your child (prophetic).
- 2) For couples, the number one blessing for your child is to experience your love and your love for each other in Christ.
(For single parents: the number one blessing for your child is to experience your love in Christ.)
- 3) Craft a Blessing Prayer
 - Use the opposite spirit (Speak prophetically)
 - o Opposite spirit (use the fruit of the Holy Spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control): An unruly child: "I bless you with gentleness in the Holy Spirit."
 - Use life filling words (Declare life)
 - o "highly esteemed"; "powerful"; "mighty in the Lord", "honored", "valued" etc.
 - Use nonspecific, descriptive and symbolic language
 - o Nonspecific: "influence in the market place" instead of "a good job"
 - o Descriptive: "the head and not the tail"
 - o Symbolic: ex. Gen. 49:9 "Judah is a lion's cub..."
 - Declarative or petitional (depends on personal comfort)
 - o Declarative: ex. "Judah is a lion's cub...": "You are the head; not the tail"
 - o Petitional: "Father God, would you make Judah a lion's cub?"; "Father God, would You bless my child to be the head and not the tail?"
- 4) Minister Prayer
 - child in the womb: lay hand on the womb & pray gently with faith
 - birth to 3-4 years old: while asleep, lay hand on their head & pray gently with faith
 - older children: lay hand on their head & pray gently with faith out loud
- 5) You may ask an anointed person to bless your child.
- 6) Memorialize the Blessing: make a plaque or frame the words