



CONVERSATION STARTER

Who is someone whose words have stayed with you over the years? What did they say, and why do you think it mattered?

DEEPER

Read Genesis 48

1. What is the difference between offering a kind compliment and speaking a thoughtful, biblical blessing over someone? What might make it feel unfamiliar or difficult to do?
2. Wright describes blessing as something we receive and then give to others. Which comes more naturally to you, receiving encouragement or offering it? What might make the other one difficult?
3. A blessing speaks hope over someone's life. How can we do that in a way that reflects what God says, while still listening carefully to who that person is and what they are facing?
4. Joseph named Manasseh because God had helped him through hardship, and Ephraim because God had made him fruitful in the land of his suffering (Genesis 41:51–52). How can God's grace help someone move forward from painful experiences while still being honest about them?
5. Fruitfulness in Scripture can mean bearing good fruit in the life God has given us. How might that look different in different seasons of life? What helps you recognize fruitfulness when it does not look like visible success?
6. God's favor is a gift of grace, not something we earn or control. How can we talk about God's favor in a way that gives hope while leaving room for hardship, unanswered prayers, and seasons that remain difficult?
7. Wright describes blessing as something we can learn to practice. Who is one person you could encourage this week with specific, truthful words that recognize God's work in their life and express hope for them? What could you say?

NOTES

PRAYER

Thank God for the blessing he gives us in Christ. Ask him to help us rest in his love, receive his grace in painful seasons, and grow in faithful fruitfulness. Pray for opportunities to speak words that encourage and strengthen the people around us.