



<b>Pastors</b>	<b>Issue # 49</b>	<b>Arripe diem</b>
<b>Pastor Allen      254-466-5044</b>		<b>pro Deo et Patria</b>
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**PASTOR'S CORNER:**

**Have You Been Blessed Today**

"When Esau heard the words of his father, he cried with an exceedingly great and bitter cry, and said to his father, Bless me— me also, O my father!" **Genesis 27:34**

Each of us long to be accepted by our parents and others. While many of us may say out loud, 'it doesn't matter what others think about me,' but deep inside we all care what others think or how they feel toward us.

Esau sold his birthright for a bowl of soup, now he loss his blessing from Isaac, through Rebekah's, and Jacob's deception. Notice what the Scripture says, **Esau cried with a loud and bitter cry**, why because he missed Isaac's blessing. Missing out on our parents blessing can affect us throughout our adult lives.

Missing the blessing we receive from our parents can affect all of our relationships, our present and future relationships. What our children want most from us is not gifts at Christmas though they are good to receive, but they long for our approval and acceptance. Telling our children they are special not only to us as parents, but they are special to God is one of the most important things we can do for our children.

Gary Smalley and John Trent wrote a book several years ago entitle "Chosen for a Blessing" where they talked about the five elements of blessing our children.

The First Element is a Meaningful Touch; hug your children, hold their hand snuggle with them.

The Second Element is the Spoken Word, tell them how much you love them.

The Third Element is to Express High Value on them they are important not only to you but to God.

The Fourth Element is to Picture a Special Future for them let them know they are going to accomplish special things for the world.

The Fifth Element is to Active Commitment to them and what they are doing, be with them during these time.

Great stewardship sermon, Pastor. I'm going to increase my giving 100% - from \$1 to \$2!



A Thought from Mr. Rogers

*"If we're really honest with ourselves, there are probably times when we think. 'What possible use can I be in this world? What need is there for somebody like me to fill?' That's one of the deeper mysteries. Then God's grace comes to us in the form of another person who tells us we have been of help, and what a blessing that is."*

Weekly Humor

A new Pastor in a small Oklahoma town spent the first four days making personal visits to each of the members, inviting them to come to his first services. The following Sunday the church was all but empty. Accordingly, the Pastor placed a notice in the local newspapers, stating that, because the church was dead, it was everyone's duty to give it a decent Christian burial. The funeral would be held the following Sunday afternoon, the notice said. Morbidly curious, a large crowd turned out for the "funeral." In front of the pulpit, they saw a closed coffin, smothered in flowers. After the Pastor delivered the eulogy, he opened the coffin and invited his congregation to come forward and pay their final respects to their dead church. Filled with curiosity as to what would represent the corpse of a "dead church," all the people eagerly lined up to look in the coffin. Each "mourner" peeped into the coffin then quickly turned away with a guilty, sheepish look. In the coffin, tilted at the correct angle, was a large mirror.