Women's Day E	Bible Study
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Scripture:

"Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill His promises to her." (Luke 1:45, NIV)

Theme:

"Women Flourishing in Faith, Love, and Unity"

1

Who doesn't want to be Blessed??

- We want to live a blessed life.
- We want our children and our spouses to be blessed.
- We want our careers to be blessed.
- We want to be blessed in the city.
- We want to be blessed in the field.
- We want to be blessed when we come and blessed when we go.
- We strive to exemplify the characteristics of a virtuous woman so that our children will rise up and call us blessed as it states in Proverbs 31.

2

Why do we want to be blessed?

Because a blessed life is evidence that we are flourishing in our faith.

Blessings befall those who please God with their lifestyles and behavior; so, if we're blessed then we are confident that we are living righteously in the eyes of God.

Blessings are evidence of God's presence and His power manifested in our lives. So, when we are blessed, we are re-affirmed in our faith that God is always with us, taking care of us.

How can we be	like	"her?"
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If we are looking for instruction in righteousness, then we need to look no further than the Word of God (II Tim. 3:16-17)

There are many scriptures that teach is how we can achieve the status of being blessed.

We couldn't possibly visit them all today, but, we will delve in to a few that provide great insight.

4

Matthew 5:3-12

- 3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.
- 5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.
- 6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
- 7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.
- 8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
- 9 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.
- 10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for their's is the kingdom of heaven.

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- 11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake."
- 12 Rejoice and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you."

How can I live a blessed life RIGHT NOW??

I had fainted, Unless I had believed to see the goodness of God in the land of the living. Psalms 27:13

7

Psalm 1:1-3 KJV

- 1. Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, Nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.
- 2. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; And in his law doth he meditate day and night.
- And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; His leaf also shall not wither; And whatsoever he doeth shall prosper."

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What NOT to do:

A. "Walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly ..."

Translation: Don't seek or receive advice from ungodly sources or people.

B. "Nor standeth in the way of sinners ..."

Translation: Don't hang around with sinners.

C. "Nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful ..."

Translation: Don't hang around negative people!!

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- 1. What or Whom should one avoid if one desires to live a blessed life?
- 2. Describe some examples of such people/things.
- 3. What changes, if any can/will you make to avoid conforming your life to this pattern?

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What we ought to do instead:

Translation: If you want to be blessed, learn to take pure joy and pleasure (delight) in God's word (the law of the Lord) and in studying it, thinking about it, memorizing it, repeating it to others, as often as possible.

11

"Delight thyself also in the LORD; And he shall give thee the desires of thine heart." Psalm 37:4 KJV

- This is a PROMISE from God. Not a suggestion or a hope, but a guarantee!!
- Many people misinterpret this scripture as meaning that God will just give them
 whatever their hearts desire. But actually, what it means is that he will teach
 you through his Word and through the power of the Holy Spirit what your
 heart should desire and then he will reward you with those things so that you
 are always walking in alignment with His will. The perfect pathway to
 being blessed!!

Blessings, Bonu	ıses, Be	enefits
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"He shall be like a tree, that is planted by the rivers of waters that bringeth forth its fruit in its season."

Translation: Not only will you flourish because you are constantly connected to the source of abundant, healthy life, but you will be an asset to the Kingdom of God because you will produce fruit- meaning that your prosperity will be contagious and spread to those around you to edify the body of Christ.

To "flourish" means: to grow or develop in a healthy or vigorous way, especially as a result of a particularly favorable environment.

13

John 15:5

"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."

Staying connected to Christ through prayer and the constant study of and meditation upon his word is how we abide in Him, creating for ourselves that "favorable environment" wherein we can not just grow, but <u>flourish</u> in our faith!

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MORE Bonuses, Benefits & Blessings

"...his leaf also shall not wither and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper!!" (Psalm 1:3)

Promised

Permanent

Perpetual

Prosperity

Reflection Questions

- 1. What should you focus on doing if you want to be blessed?
- 2. Why is this necessary?
- 3. What are some of the positive results of adherence to this Word?
- 4. What is a conditional promise?
- 5. How can we know what benefits God promises us in His word and what we must do to receive those benefits?
- 6. How have you seen this scripture manifested in your life personally?