

God's Purpose in Blessing

Use this guide as a tool to help you prepare to experience spiritual transformation in a practical way. It is a **flexible guide** that will help you discover, own, and apply the truths of God's Word.

Message Summary

The New Day Church family is reading through the bible chronologically in 2017. Each week we hear a sermon based on the material we have already read for the week. We are learning that the story of Redemption is on full display from Genesis to Revelation. Both Old and New Testaments are one unified story that speaks of the beauty of God and the Redemption He has provided for us.

Psalm 67 is a summary of God's redemptive plan for the world! God's plan has always been to bless His people so that they might be a blessing to the world. God chose Israel to be "*his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth*" (Deuteronomy 7:6) so that He might keep "*the oath that he swore to [their] fathers*" (Deuteronomy 7:8). That oath was God's promise to Abraham that He would make him a great nation and through him all the world would be blessed (Genesis 12:2-3). In other words, God blessed Israel with His favor and His mission to make the Lord known in all the world.

We know from the New Testament, that God's people includes all those who have trusted in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior (Galatians 3:29). Therefore, God's promises in Psalm 67 apply to Christians who will carry His truths into all the world. God has blessed us so that we will bless the world. And the way we will bless the world is by sharing the love of Jesus Christ with them. Yet, we live in a world where there are over 6000 unreached people groups. In other words, these are people who are less than 2% evangelical Christian. Over 1.7 billion of them have no access to the Gospel. Included among these people are as many as 40,000 children under 5 years old per day that starve to death. Yet, 90% of the world's poorest people don't have the gospel while 90% of our missionaries go to Christianized peoples. May our church family help change these statistics!

God has blessed the church, particularly in America, with wealth and the ability to make the Gospel known throughout the world. As you prepare to meet with your Missional Community, ask yourself, "How will we as a church use our wealth for the spread of His worship?" Also ask, "How will we plan our lives around God's purpose?" When we leverage all we have for the sake of His great name we will then know God's purpose in blessing!

Message Outline

3 Truths from Psalm 67...

1. God blesses His people for the sake of all nations (1-2)
 - We enjoy:
 - The favor of God.
 - The mission of God.)
 - God wants all peoples to:
 - Know Him.
 - Worship Him.
 - Enjoy Him.
 - Fear Him.
2. God's purpose is for His Name to be praised among all nations (3-5)
 - He is:
 - Gracious Savior.
 - Righteous Judge.
 - Shepherd King.
3. God blesses His people when they display His glory to the nations. (6-7)
 - Don't disconnect God's blessing from His purpose.
 - Your wealth is for the spread of His worship.

Therefore, let's:

1. Pray Psalm 67 often.
2. Praise Him for His provision.
3. Plan our lives around God's purpose.

By running to:

- Our neighbors.
- The nations.

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Group Discussion

Use the following questions to help make application of God's Word to your Head (What God wants me to know), to your Heart (What God wants me to desire/value), and to your Hands (What God wants me to do).

In regard to Psalm 67:

1. What does this passage teach about God? (God's Identity; Theology)
2. What does this passage teach about what God has done? (God's Action; Christology)
3. What does this passage teach about man/me? (Old & New Creation Identity; Ecclesiology)
4. What does this passage teach about what I should do? (Reveals what I really believe about Questions 1-3; Missional Ecclesiology)
5. What does this passage teach about how I do it uniquely in my context? (personal action steps of obedience)

Weekly Prayer Focus

• Church:

- Pray as we seek to identify additional elders to lead us into the future.
- Pray about going on a global mission trip this year.
- Pray as we seek to raise up additional leaders who will multiply our Missional Communities.
- Pray for our worship space.
- Pray for our finances.
- _____
- _____

• Local:

- Pray that all who have believed the Gospel will obey Jesus in believer's baptism.
- Pray for new relationships that will lead to Gospel conversations.
- Pray for the Missional Communities to impact their communities with the Gospel.
- Pray that God would burden us with the lostness in our cities, neighborhoods, and at work.
- Pray that God will identify 5 people you can begin to invest in and engage with the Gospel.
- _____
- _____
- _____

• Global:

- Pray that God would give you a heart for the nations.
- Pray for new workers on the mission field.
- Pray for the team working in SEA, the new believers, for those who have heard the Gospel, and the church planting movement among the unreached.
- Pray for Good Shepherd Ministries and Bill & Sandy Younger.
- Pray for Servants Hearts Ministries and Bob & Georgette Kornegay.
- Pray for Pastor Abraham and his church in Guatemala.
- Pray for the work of Paul & Sarah Young and Dakota Baptist Church in North Dakota.
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