

# THE BLESSING

## Affirming Your Grandchild's Value

Ideas for ways to communicate acceptance, demonstrate genuine commitment and add value to your grandchild.

### **WHEN TO GIVE THE BLESSING:**

Capture spontaneous moments, take advantage of special occasions and scheduled events to give the blessing in an intentional manner.

### **THE FIVE BLESSING PRINCIPLES:**

#### **B - BE COMMITTED**

As a grandparent, you have the opportunity to take on an active, lifelong commitment to your grandchild's well-being. Bless your grandchild to help them be all that God intends them to be.

#### **L - LOVINGLY TOUCH**

The power of appropriate, tender touch such as a hug creates an important physical connection communicating warmth and acceptance.

#### **E - EXPRESS VALUE**

You add value to your grandchild's lives when you use words that affirm them based on who they are, rather than what they accomplish.

#### **S - SEE POTENTIAL**

Picture a special future for your grandchild. Become a student of your grandchild as you spend time discovering special traits in them and cheering them on toward achieving their potential.

#### **S - SAY IT**

Use words of affirmation to let your grandchild know they are dearly loved. The blessing must be communicated to have an impact and be effective, whether written, spoken, or both.

# PUTTING THE BLESSING INTO ACTION

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## BLESSING NOTES:

- Use note cards and choose a creative way to deliver the notes, such as an email announcing that a “snail mail” letter is on the way.
- Cheer them on as they move toward their God-given potential. Suggested language...

*Young Child: You are so special to me. I prayed for you today, asking God to bless your life. I love you so much.*

*Teen: I believe God is going to use you in great ways. I see so much potential in you already. I am proud of you.*

## BUCKET FILLING:

- Read *How Full is Your Bucket?* by Tom Rath and Mary Reckmeyer with your grandchild. You can also watch a video of the book being read at [homepointe.org/legacy](http://homepointe.org/legacy)
- Discuss the following questions after you read the story.
  - What words fill your bucket (make you feel happy)?
  - What words empty your bucket (make you feel sad)?
- Ask your grandchild how you can help fill their bucket?
- Look up the following scriptures and discuss them with your grandchild: **Luke 6:45, Ephesians 4:29, Psalm 19:14**

## ENCOURAGEMENT CARDS:

- Identify three Godly character traits you see demonstrated in your grandchild. Write the three traits on a card.  
*Example: “Morgan – CARING, THOUGHTFUL, SENSITIVE”*
- Frame the card to be displayed in your grandchild’s room as a reminder of your words of affirmation. Watch these special traits develop and grow!

## BLESSING SURPRISES:

Everyone loves surprises! Imagine the impact of sending a special package to your grandchild that contains a gift tied to the child’s unique interests or abilities along with a note that says, “This made me think of you. I pray God will use your (describe the interest or strength) to impact others in the future!” Gift ideas: iTunes Gift Card (music), leather-bound journal (writing), paints (art).

For more ideas and discussion on blessing your grandchild, see the “Blessing” kit available online at [homepointe.org/legacy](http://homepointe.org/legacy)