

February 2017 Message

BLESSING OTHER PEOPLE

by Paula Weiss

I saw the letters BOP on my daughter's "to-do" list while we visited over Christmas break. So I asked... "what does BOP stand for?" "Blessing other people"—was her response. "Each week or when we can, our family finds a way to bless someone else." I liked that idea!

How about a challenge to our Messiah family? What if we would find a way to bless others during the month of February?? Each day your family could find one way to bless someone else. Maybe family members could take turns with the assignment. Agree on the plan ahead of time and work it out together. And what might come of blessing other people? I suspect that we'll be more blessed than those we bless. While we are BOP-ping... I believe God will be BU (Blessing Us).

So BOP away! Get a plan and get started. February 1st is almost here. Talk about your BOP's at home (or while you're driving). This is not about getting credit or glory--- but it is about being a BLESSING to someone else.

And let's SHARE our BOP's with each other-- send them to Paula family@messiah-nc.org and she can (anonymously) share your BOP ideas! Snap a picture (if appropriate) and send that too. (the cookies your baked, the yard you raked, etc.) You might let me know how someone blessed you!

Some ways you might want to BOP! (BLESS OTHER PEOPLE)—

1. Be kind (especially to someone that challenges your kindness). Ask God to bless them.

2.
Smile—more
and a lot! Smile at those you don't
know—in the store, at the restaurant, in school...
3.
Be
thoughtful in traffic. Let someone else
cut in front of you. Pray a blessing for
them!
4.
Return
loose shopping carts to the cart return. At Aldi's—offer a cart without taking the
quarter!
5.
Hold
the door for someone. Offer a "God Bless
You. "while you do.
6.
Offer
to carry groceries for someone.
7.
Wave
(vigorously) at a school bus driver, mailman, or other worker that needs
recognition.
8.
Bake
cookies or brownies-- for your local police station, fire station or EMT's
9.
Send
a note --- This could be for a birthday or anniversary that you don't usually
remember---OR
10. To someone who is alone or someone who
needs encouragement
11. To someone you love or to someone you
need to love more
12. To someone you can thank or to someone
who is sad
13. Draw a picture for a friend. (Frame it!)
14. Take a special treat to a teacher,
school secretary, janitor or other support staff.
15. Make a Valentine for someone in your
neighborhood you don't know very well (yet).
16. Give your gently used toys and clothes
to salvation Army.
17. Give eye contact when greeting people
today (you might even add a smile!).
18. Donate extra items to the food pantry
this month.

19. Leave an extra generous tip for a waiter or waitress (whether you've gotten great service—or not).
20. Leave a tip for a housekeeping person in a hotel-- add a note of thanks.
21. Pay it forward when you are at the drive-through.
22. Offer “blessing bags” (bottled water, granola bar, candy bar, nuts or fruit) for someone holding a “need food” or “out of work” sign. Don't forget a note of encouragement! Pray, too!
23. Do a random act of kindness at work or school.
24. Sit by someone at lunch that could use a friend—be sincerely interested in them.
25. Make a meal for a family that could use a break. Pray for them.
26. Do childcare for a family—so Mom and Dad get a night out. (could be a family project!)
27. Choose one person or family to pray for—ALL DAY. (Breakfast, lunch, breaks, dinner and bedtime).
28. Invite a family in for game night and snacks.
29. Offer to rake (or vacuum) for a friend or neighbor. (with their permission but not for payment!)
30. Do your siblings chores for the week without reward.
31. Do your spouses chores for the week....without expecting reward or acknowledgement.
32. Bring a cup of coffee to a co-worker.
33. Leave a small bouquet of flowers (anonymously) for someone who needs cheering up
34. Hug someone that might not expect it!
35. Visit or call someone in the hospital. Pray, too!
36. Leave used Christian magazines or devotionals in your dr. waiting room or other waiting room.
37. Share used books that have blessed you with a friend.

May you be BLESSED by BOP-ping this month!

