

Theme: God desires for our prayers to be filled with bold requests for blessing, that others would come to know Him, from here to the farthest part of the earth.

I. Intro – The Book of UnCommon Prayer

- A. The Book of Common Prayer - English Reformation
- B. Originally published in 1549; 1662 still used by many
- C. Contains many prayers, liturgies, services
- D. Many other denominations books influenced by it
- E. It, Shakespeare & KJV foundational to modern English
- F. We will be looking at another book of prayer - Psalms
- G. But is is the book of UN-common prayers!
- H. We hope this will help us learn to pray

II. UnCommon Boldness In Asking For Blessing

- A. A prayer for blessing (v1)
 - 1. The prayer is asking for God's blessing (v1)
 - 2. Based on Aaronic benediction (Num 6:24-26; v1)
 - 3. But benediction now prayer (Num 6:24-26; v1; you/us)
- B. A bold prayer for blessing!
 - 1. A bold prayer to be blessed (v1)
 - 2. A bold prayer for God's Presence of favor (v1)
 - 3. A bold prayer for grace - not earned (v1)
- C. God wants us to boldly ask to be blessed - by grace!

III. UnCommonly Bold Missionary Prayer

- A. The surprising change in direction
 - 1. Selah - a pause - that changes direction
 - 2. Instead of peace for me - salvation for nations (v2)
 - 3. Becomes a bold prayer for universal shalom!
- B. A bold prayer for the Gospel to go forth
 - 1. May God's ways and salvation be known by all (v2)
 - 2. May the peoples - Gentiles - praise God (v3,5)
 - 3. May the nations rejoice in God! (v4)
 - 4. The Psalmists prayer has been answered!
 - 5. The sun never sets on praise of Yahweh today!
- C. A bold confession of God's rule - v4
 - 1. God is working in all nations to do His will
 - 2. God's plan will not be thwarted! Take heart!
 - 3. This is why we can pray boldly for Gospel success

IV. An UnCommon Cycle of Blessing

- A. The conclusion - a cycle of blessing
 - 1. The land yields its harvest - God blesses us (v6)
 - 2. The reason - so that the nations look to Him (v7)
- B. Blessed - to be a blessing!
 - 1. God wants to bless His people - in every area of life

2. He wants to do this so that others might know Him
3. He wants to bless us - so we can be a blessing!

C. Abrahamic covenant - blessed to be a blessing (Gen 12:2-3)

1. Note centrality of blessing - 5x - only 6x in Gen 1-11
2. The reason - so that others may be blessed!
3. Knowing this can lead to uncommonly bold prayers!

V. Applying the Word - UnCommon Boldness In Prayer

A. Do we see God wants us to boldly ask?

1. Remember the great promises Jesus has given!
2. God is encouraging us to ask!
3. We often don't have, because we do not ask! (James 4:2)
4. Do we make our desires & requests known to God?
5. Do I ask God to bless me and my family?
6. Do I ask God to bless BRCC?
7. False modesty is hypocrisy; God knows our desires!
8. This year - lets ask God to bless us - boldly!

B. Do we have right motives in wanting to be blessed?

1. As Perry said, God uses prayer to change us too
2. Why do I want to be blessed - just for me?
3. We do not receive because of impure motives (James 4:3)
4. What are my deepest desires - God's glory or my pleasure?

5. Do I want to be blessed for me - or others?

6. This year lets ask God to give us Kingdom vision!

C. A bold prayer for blessing

UnCommon Boldness In Prayer

Psalm 67
February 24, 2013
Prayer for Blessing
Genesis 12:2-3

24 The Lord **ble**ss you and keep you; 25 the Lord **make his face shine upon** you and be **gracious** to you; 26 the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.
Numbers 6:24–26

May God be **gracious** to us and **ble**ss us and **make his face shine upon** us, Selah
Psalms 67:1

24 The Lord **ble**ss **you** and keep **you**; 25 the Lord **make his face shine upon you** and be **gracious to you**; 26 the Lord turn his face toward **you** and give **you** peace.
Numbers 6:24–26

May God be **gracious to us** and **ble**ss **us** and **make his face shine upon us**, Selah
Psalms 67:1

2 “I will make you into a great nation and I will **ble**ss you; I will make your name great, and you will be a **ble**ssing. 3 I will **ble**ss those who **ble**ss you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be **ble**ssed through you.”
Genesis 12:2–3

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Genesis 12:2–3

You do not have, because you do not ask God.
James 4:2

2 You do not have, because you do not ask God. 3 **When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.**
James 4:2-3

1 May God be **gracious to us** and **ble**ss **us** and **make his face shine upon us**, Selah
2 that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations. 3 May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you. 4 May the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you rule the peoples justly and guide the nations of the earth. Selah 5 May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you. 6 Then the land will yield its harvest, and God, our God, will **ble**ss us. 7 God will **ble**ss us, and all the ends of the earth will fear him.
Psalms 67:1–7

2 “I will make you into a great nation and I will **ble**ss you; I will make your name great, and you will be a **ble**ssing. 3 I will **ble**ss those who **ble**ss you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be **ble**ssed through you.”
Genesis 12:2–3