

Sunday July 25, 2021  
Numbers 6:22-26  
The Blessing

The P \_\_\_\_\_ of God's P \_\_\_\_\_

The G \_\_\_\_\_ of God's G \_\_\_\_\_

C \_\_\_\_\_ Through God's C \_\_\_\_\_

## **Devotional Thought**

Words are powerful. I cannot remember the pain of being punched in the nose as a kid. Nor can I remember the pain of the spankings I received from my parents. But all of us still feel the pain when we remember the hurtful words. “You will never amount to anything.” “You aren’t good enough.” “You will never make it.” Words are powerful, and they leave lasting impressions.

This is the best illustration that I have heard to describe this. A teenage boy got into an argument with his younger brother and said some very harsh things to him. His dad overheard the words, so, he grabbed the boy by the arm, and dragged him towards the barn. The teenager thought for sure he was going to get the beating of a lifetime, but instead, his father pulled out a board, a hammer, and some nails. He told his son to drive all the nails into the wood. Once that was done, his father told him to remove the nails. When he did this, he had a board that was permanently scarred by the holes left by the nails and the indentions where the hammer had made contact with the wood. His father told him that is what our harsh words do. You may say that you are sorry for saying them, and the wounds may heal, but the scars will always be there.

That is why it is important that we speak affirming, encouraging words to the people that God places in our lives. Words of blessing, while they cannot remove the scars, can serve to heal the heart and mind of someone wounded by the criticism we all hear throughout our lifetimes. Ask yourself when was the last time you told someone that they were doing a great job or that they were a blessing to you? Try to find someone you can affirm today.