

## ‘A Great Way to Pray for Others’ Num. 6:24-26

**Introduction:** Do you ever struggle trying to figure out what to pray for someone? Not sure what to say or what might be appropriate and helpful? This will help you.

This will also help you to live the \_\_\_\_\_. Are you a blessing to others? What does it mean to bless someone? This passage is a blessing, which is also a prayer because you’re asking God to do something.

Blessing defined: It’s a special favor granted by God. It is something that brings happiness to that person, good fortune, something they want, something good. So it’s a general term that can imply all kinds of good things. It’s a great word, there’s nothing quite like it.

### **I. A prayer for the Lord’s protection. vs. 24**

A. First a couple of things to notice right away. This prayer comes from the Lord. This is not the invention of any man. Also, the pronouns are singular so it is asking God to bless each individual.

B. The Lord uses very poetic language. Each line has 2 elements: asking God to bless and He uses some descriptive language to say that, and then the content of the blessing.

C. The main content of the blessing in vs. 24 is: to keep you. It means to guard you, to watch over you, to protect you, to keep you \_\_\_\_\_. Ps. 121:3-8.

D. We live in an evil world. We have our security alarms, airbags, our online passwords, we even have homeland security, but do we really feel secure? Share the security you have in Christ with others.

### **II. A prayer for the Lord’s kindness and favor. vs. 25**

A. A very poetic way of asking to bless someone is to ask for the Lord to make His face to shine on them. What does this mean? A shining face is a smiling face. It means you will probably get the request you just asked the King for. A shining face carries the idea of approval, of pleasure, of affection.

B. What is the content of this blessing in vs. 25? That He would be gracious to you. Grace: God’s unearned favor, His kindness, that’s what we want and need. It includes His pardon for sin, for messing up once again. We are saved by grace through faith.

### **III. A prayer for their total well-being. vs. 26**

A. Another poetic and descriptive way to ask the Lord to bless someone is to ask the Lord to lift up His countenance upon them. This is similar to the last one. Countenance means face, including the expression on that face, which you hope is a smiling, kind one. This is asking God to look at you, to see you, to not \_\_\_\_\_ you.

B. The blessing mentioned here is peace, the Hebrew word: shalom. Shalom is a very rich word. It includes many things such as: quietness of heart, spiritual health, having adequate resources for life’s demands, a fullness of well-being which can only come from the Lord. The world cannot manufacture this. Jn. 14:27. Shalom. It’s a great word and much needed today.

### **Applications:**

**1. The well-known evangelist D.L. Moody** once said that he loved this prayer. He said you could conclude every letter you write with it. You could start and end every day with it.

**2. It is both a model prayer and a prescriptive prayer.** It can be used as is or as an outline.

**3. When you don’t know what to pray or what to pray for someone else, use this.**

**4. Combine it with the Lord’s prayer.** Matt. 6:9-13. You put these two together and you have an amazing prayer list. And notice again, both of these prayers come from the Lord.

**5. Memorize it.** So when you want to pray for someone, you will be able to pray biblically for them.

**6. Pray it for your family.** Do you want your kids to be protected by God and to experience His favor?

Do you want God’s blessing? Ask for it!