



RITE OF PASSAGE BLESSING

The ROP blessing is read to your student at the ROP event. You are welcome to include grandparents, friends and mentors in this time. And they are encouraged to write their own blessing for your student. Please just keep in mind the time constraints. You will have approximately 10-20 minutes together as a family. Below are some tips to help you get started.

WRITING THE BLESSING

Blessing should be about 2-5 minutes long. This could depend on how many people are involved in blessing your student. Write it down and practice. Talk **TO** your child, not **ABOUT** your child

WHAT SHOULD THE BLESSING INCLUDE?

Share some special traits you admire in your child. Share a vision of where you see your child going as they transition to this new season of life. Share how you feel about your child.

READING THE BLESSING

Each family will be given 10-20 minutes to spend time blessing and praying over their student. This will be done in the privacy of your own family circle. You are welcome to include grandparents, friends or mentors in this blessing time.

SAMPLE BLESSING

When spoken at a normal rate of speed, this example is about 2 minutes long.

Johnny, you are currently a 5th grader at Your Elementary School, but soon you will venture - or maybe adventure - into life in middle school. Over the years we have spent hours together on family trips, at Grandpa's house in Kerrville and in our home around the break-fast table. We have seen you grow from a little toddler who pronounced "dad" as "DA" into a fifth grader and great baseball player. We have enjoyed watching you grow into the honorable and trustworthy young man you are. One of the things we admire most - like you cared for the people in Mexico the summer we went on a family mission trip wonderful things and made a big impact on many people, but we also know that you have had your struggles.

Of course, you know, we will never stop being your parents. We will -as long as we are able- be there by your side. Yes, we will still nag you about cleaning your room, worry about you and always love you. We pray that you will keep the faith. The thing we are the most proud of is the ways that you love and worship Jesus. Always keep him first in your heart. Make Him your top priority. We love the way you allow Jesus to live His life through you. We love the way you love His word and the ways that you have memorized scripture. Our favorite memory of you is when you were three and you memorized the fruits of the Spirit. Christ IN YOU gives you these good gifts. Keep relying on Him and not on yourself. In Him is life. We love you so much.