

Biblical Benedictions from the New Testament
Season 2: Increase in God's Love



Scripture

- **I Thessalonians 3:11-13**

Now may our God and Father Himself and Jesus our Lord direct our way to you; and may the Lord cause you to increase and abound in love for one another, and for all people, just as we also do for you. He may establish your hearts without blame in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints.

Other Scriptures

- Proverbs 23:7
- Psalm 36:9
- Proverbs 3:5-6
- Galatians 5:22-23
- Zechariah 4:6
- John 2:1-10; 3:16
- Philippians 2:12
- Luke 19:10
- Acts 2:3, 13:47

Main Points

- A benediction is a declaration of blessing.
- We can ask God to direct our way.
- Sukkat Shalom is the Hebrew transliteration for the English phrase “shelter of peace”.
- Regardless of how old you are, God’s got more for you!
- The best is at the end.
- We are called to work out our salvation in fear and trembling.
- God’s blessing over you is that you would increase in love for **His People** and for **ALL People**.
- To abound in love, it takes action.
- Let’s love and let’s love well!

Discussion Questions

1. How do we know we can ask God to direct our ways? Where does direction begin? Knowing you can ask God to help direct every thought may prompt in you some realizations about your own thinking. Take time right now to talk to Father about your less than helpful thinking. Write about it.
2. Where do the fruits of the spirit begin? Explain
3. How does “the best is yet to come” describe our life in Yeshua? Write about how the first miracle of Jesus demonstrate this?
4. What is involved in working out our salvation in fear and trembling? In what are we increasing?
5. What does Rabbi mean by being self activated toward showing love? What are some actions you personally can take to demonstrate love?