## The Blessing May 14-15, 2011 Gary Sinclair

You are an amazing person. Yes, amazing. Why? Well first because God made you. That's right. He made you the way you are with your talents, your quirkiness, your loves and likes. Sure there are some things that got messed up in you just like they did in me. And yes, we're all selfish; our pride can get in the way. We've all sinned and messed with what God intended for us.

But that's why Jesus died in your place and mine. God loved you that much and still does. And I want to tell you today that He still has a purpose and plan for you. He smiles as He sees how you uniquely live, respond, talk and think. He is grinning as He sees the potential still in you to make a difference in the lives of people. And I smile too.

It doesn't matter what you've done, experienced or how you've been treated.

And I believe God has something special yet to do in you now, today, and in the future. You're not on the trash pile even with all the stuff in your past. Your age, height, weight, size, sex, skills, and all the rest don't change that one bit. I am so proud of who you are and who you can continue to be.

Yes, I'm sad at how some people have talked to you and about you and how some have simply written you off. And I'm also sad that you, like me, have sometimes undercut the way God made you. But I know this, that you never have to be paralyzed by your past. Live now, starting or continuing today, as the child of God you are. Celebrate it and thank God for that. Live like you matter every day because you do. Let God use you in someone's life.

And then do one more thing. Go bless your spouse or your kids or your parents or neighbor or friend. Share with them something like what you've heard today. Tell them that in spite of the challenges and difficulties that may have come between you that you still see great potential in them. Tell them.

You see I believe in you. And more importantly God does too.