

“Stepping into God's provision”

1. If God says He will do it , it's already done

The LORD's Charge to Joshua

Joshua 1:2-3 (NLT)

...He said, ² “Moses my servant is dead. Therefore, the time has come for you to lead these people, the Israelites, across the Jordan River into the land **I am giving them**. ³ I promise you what I promised Moses: ‘Wherever you set foot, you will be on land **I have given you**...

Scripture:

Psalms 23:5 (KJV)

⁵Thou preparest a **table** before me in the presence of mine enemies.

Table = *a spread*

Scripture:

Joshua 1:6–7 (NLT)

⁶ “Be **strong and courageous**, for you are the one who will lead these people **to possess all the land** I swore to their ancestors I would give them. ⁷ Be strong and very courageous. **Be careful to obey** all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do.

2. God's provision is in His promises to us

2 Peter 1:3–5 (KJV)

³ According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: ⁴ Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

Scripture:

2 Corinthians 9:8 (KJV)

⁸ And God is able to make **all** grace **abound** toward you; that ye, **all** ways having **all** sufficiency in **all** things, may **abound** to every (**all**) good work:

2 x abound – *exceed the ordinary, overflow*

5 x all – *inclusive of everything*

Scripture:

Ephesians 2:10–11 (NIV)

¹⁰ For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus **to do good works**, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

3. Abundance starts with giving

2 Corinthians 9:6–8, 10-11 (NIV)

⁶ Remember this: Whoever **sows sparingly** will also **reap sparingly**, and whoever **sows generously** will also **reap generously**. ⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

¹⁰ Now he who supplies **seed to the sower** and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

It all starts and finishes with God

Deuteronomy 8:18 (NIV)

¹⁸ But remember the LORD your God, for it is **he who gives you the ability to produce wealth**, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

2 Corinthians 9:8 (NLT)

⁸ And God will **generously provide all you need**. Then you will always have everything you need, and **plenty left over to share with others**.

4. Some of His promises to us have conditions

Luke 16:10–12 (NLT)

¹⁰ “**If** you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But **if** you are dishonest in little things, you won’t be honest with greater responsibilities. ¹¹ And **if** you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven? ¹² And **if** you are not faithful with other people’s things, why should you be trusted with things of your own?”

Don't be dishonest or lazy

Ephesians 4:28 (NIV)

²⁸ Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

Proverbs 10:4 (NIV)

⁴ Lazy hands make for poverty, but diligent hands bring wealth.

Be responsible with what you have

Proverbs 24:30–34 (NLT)

³⁰ I walked by the field of a lazy person, the vineyard of one with no common sense. ³¹ I saw that it was overgrown with nettles. It was covered with weeds, and its walls were broken down. ³² Then, as I looked and thought about it, I learned this lesson: ³³ A little extra sleep, a little more slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest— ³⁴ then poverty will pounce on you like a bandit; scarcity will attack you like an armed robber.

Scripture:

Luke 6:36–38 (KJV)

³⁶ Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful. ³⁷ Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven: ³⁸ Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

2 Corinthians 8:7 (KJV)

⁷ Therefore, as ye abound in everything, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also.

.....With our mouth we confess

2 Corinthians 9:8 (KJV)

⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound toward **me**; that **I**, all ways having **all** sufficiency in **all** things, may **abound** to every good work.

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to you to “step into God’s provision”?

Joshua was told that the land had been given to Israel, but they still had to step into it. How can we balance trusting God’s promises with taking action ourselves?

2. What promises of God do you find easiest—or hardest—to trust?

2 Peter 1:3–5 describes God’s “exceeding great and precious promises.” How can knowing God’s promises change the way we approach situations where we feel we lack what we need?

3. How does our attitude towards giving affect our experience of God’s provision?

What makes generosity difficult sometimes, and what can help us become more generous?

4. Are there areas where God may be asking us to be faithful with what we already have before expecting more?

Luke 16:10–12 connects faithfulness in small things with being entrusted with greater things. What might being more responsible, diligent or faithful look like in your current circumstances?

5. What is one practical step you could take this week to “step into” God’s provision?

*This might involve **giving, working diligently, being responsible with what you have, trusting one of God’s promises, or becoming more generous towards someone else.** What step could you take, and what might stop you from taking it?*

“Stepping into God’s provision”