

**Make God's Provision
Your Confession**

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All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise noted, are from the King James Version. Italics for emphasis are ours.

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INTRODUCTION

“For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more” (Luke 12:48).

One of the great problems people have is being and living in the place and the purpose God designed them for. God does hold believers accountable for the opportunities He presents to them. Some people treat those opportunities very casually and dismiss their commitments.

It is up to God to develop our potential. Every believer should recognize that God doesn't expect the same thing from every Christian. If He has given a believer one talent, His expectation is a one-talent return. The expectation for a two-talent Christian is a two-talent return, and the five-talent believer is expected to answer for his opportunities with a five-talent return.

God does not require the same results from every Christian. Someone once said that your

potential is your toughest competitor. So how do I, as a believer, allow my potential to be developed? In this booklet, we will look at opportunity and what God expects from us in relationship to our opportunity. You will see that God is just asking us to be faithful—and faithful is He who has called us who also will do it (1 Thessalonians 5:24). He is true, and His provision can become our confession.

Chapter One

DO WHAT YOUR HAND FINDS TO DO

“Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest” (Ecclesiastes 9:10).

“Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

“And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.

“And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

“But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

“For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

“To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

“To another the working of miracles; to an-

other prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:

“But all these worketh that one and the self-same Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

“For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ” (1 Corinthians 12:4-12).

How is my potential developed by God? It is very simple: I choose to do what God has given me to do with all my might.

If God opens the door for you to minister to two people, minister to those two people with all your might. If God gives you ten people to minister to, then minister to those ten with all your might. If the Lord gives you a Bible study to lead, then lead that Bible study with all your might.

Also, we should be available to receive ideas from other believers. I have made that a practice. When I hear a good idea from someone, I have to humble myself and receive it from the Lord. Good ideas should be implemented instantly and with all of our might. This is how a church begins to minister in all areas: to the deaf, to the

blind, to the homeless, to the widows, to the single folks, to the married folks.

Consider the mother who has to be responsible over her children. She takes the Bible and she prays. She receives all the provisions that are open to her and cares for her family with all of her might.

Some people think that certain types of jobs are beneath them. They become bored with life, they become familiar with God's provision, and they withdraw from fulfilling their potential in the power of the Spirit.

The problem is not the job. The problem is not the office that they are in. The problem is in their hearts. They despise the "small things" (see Zechariah 4:10). So many believers have suffered the loss of rewards through this brand of familiarity. What has gone wrong in them? They simply stopped understanding God's process of developing their potential.

Faithfulness and Fruitfulness

"He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much" (Luke 16:10).

This principle has become lost to many Christians. God gives you three things to do and

you do them with all you might. The next thing you know, you have six things to do. You are faithful and God enlarges your area of service because of your faithfulness.

“Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;)

“Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God.

“For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God” (2 Corinthians 9:10-12).

There are two great Greek words I want to look at. “Ministereth” is *epichoregeo*, and it means that God supplies fully and abundantly. Then we have the word *prosanapleroo*, which appears as “supplieth” in 2 Corinthians 9:12. It means that God supplies according to capacity and expands capacity as needed. In other words, if I am being developed in my present capacity, He makes me faithful over many things. I develop skill and understanding in my obedience to Jesus Christ.

One the best things a Christian can do is to

find something to do in the church and just do it. That's much more effective than expecting someone to notice you and give you something to do. Find something to do and do it with all your might.

The next principle we need to see is that once God gives us something to do, do it and don't turn away from it. Don't quit the duty that God has given you to do. We continue with our hand upon the plough.

“His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord” (Matthew 25:21).

God Finds More for You to Do

What does God do for people who are faithful in a few things? He makes them rulers over many things. Think on this. If a person is faithful in finding something to do for Jesus Christ through the grace of God, God will find more for him to do. He sticks with his Sunday School class, he doesn't quit in the summer, and he doesn't give up on his lessons for long periods of time. He is faithful, faithful, faithful. He studies, prepares, teaches, and ministers to the little

ones God has given him. He has done just a few things, but his humility and honor in doing those few things has led to God promoting him to be over many things.

Find something to do. Get yourself into a ministry and be faithful to that ministry, and God will enlarge your capacity and make you faithful over many things. Women, get together with a few women, get a vision to serve someplace in the church, and then run with it.

If you are a man and you feel as if God is calling you to be a pastor, why not start something right now? Find a neighborhood and start knocking on the doors. Just go for an hour and a half every weekend. Take that little bit of time and work with it. Find a home where they will let you have a short Bible study. Try it once a month or twice a month. Just get something going and stay with it. Then watch as your faithfulness opens up new opportunities for you.

Chapter Two

CONFESS AND BE MORE THAN A CONQUERER

“The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

“He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

“He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.

“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

“Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

“Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever” (Psalm 23:1-6).

“The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

“When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.

“Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.

“One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple” (Psalm 27:1-4).

Jesus Christ teaches us how to make great confessions. In Psalm 23, David was making a great confession. He was running in the Judean hills, running from the armies of his son Absalom, who led a conspiracy to take the throne of Israel. Anything could have been going on at that moment. But David made a great confession: “The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.”

The Lord was the strength of David’s life and therefore he did not fear. He refused to confess the negative. He did not retreat into an emotional wilderness; he just confessed something about the Lord who is. There were no ifs, ands, or buts with David—just a positive confession rooted in faith.

God is the joy of our lives. The Lord is our wisdom. The Lord is our redemption. He is our provision. Our God supplies all of our needs according to His riches in glory (see Philippians 4:19). David simply confessed the faithfulness of God before the angels and the atmosphere, and he confessed that faithfulness to his own soul.

God can meet our needs. God is our supply. God is our life.

Believers need to confess the truth and not the problems that they find themselves in. Have you sinned? God forgives and forgets. The Lord saves forever and will take care of me. He hears and answers my prayers.

My confession today is that God will heal my soul. The Lord will care for my emotions. God will bless my business. What a great form of worship and praise.

Praises and Provisions

“For by the last words of David the Levites were numbered from twenty years old and above:

“Because their office was to wait on the sons of Aaron for the service of the house of the LORD, in the courts, and in the chambers, and in the purifying of all holy things, and the work of the

service of the house of God;

“Both for the shewbread, and for the fine flour for meat offering, and for the unleavened cakes, and for that which is baked in the pan, and for that which is fried, and for all manner of measure and size;

“And to stand every morning to thank and praise the LORD, and likewise at even” (1 Chronicles 23:27-30).

Every morning and every night, the Levites were to offer praises to God. They started their day with praise and they ended the day with praise. All of them got together. Their confession was praise to the Lord.

We should confess the truth about God and not circumstances. I will confess who God is. I will confess that God is for me and that God is in me.

As we confess the truth, God forgives us of all of our iniquities and loads us with benefits every day. He removes our sins from us, He removes our sins as far as the east is from the west. God looks down and He loves to have His people confess the truth about who He is.

Are you in difficulties? Confess Christ.

Confess God's provision for your situation. There isn't one situation that we ever face where

God does not have a magnificent provision.

Mohammed died in A.D. 670. Buddha? He's gone too. Confucius had great intelligence, but that didn't keep him alive.

Our God? He is alive! Jesus Christ is risen. He was seen. He was heard. He ascended, and now He lives to make intercession for us and to speak through us and to us.

Chapter Three

THE MORNING WILL COME

“I will extol thee, O LORD; for thou hast lifted me up, and hast not made my foes to rejoice over me.

“O LORD my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me.

“O LORD, thou hast brought up my soul from the grave: thou hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.

“Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.

“For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

“And in my prosperity I said, I shall never be moved.

“LORD, by thy favour thou hast made my mountain to stand strong: thou didst hide thy face, and I was troubled.

“I cried to thee, O LORD; and unto the LORD I

made supplication.

“What profit is there in my blood, when I go down to the pit? Shall the dust praise thee? shall it declare thy truth?

“Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me: LORD, be thou my helper.

“Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing: thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness;

“To the end that my glory may sing praise to thee, and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever” (Psalm 30:1-12).

David did sin with Bathsheba. He was disciplined and chastised by his heavenly Father. He also sinned in numbering the people in an attempt to gauge the natural strength of the kingdom of Israel. He had reason to weep, but he understood that joy would come in the morning.

The night seasons of our life are troubling and trying. But they endure for only a season.

One of the most difficult things I had to do was minister to a couple whose 8-year-old was suddenly diagnosed with leukemia. This boy was the picture of health, and his parents had been saved for just three months. They were so new in the Lord. I watched them weep as they were filled with sorrow.

We just kept visiting and visiting and visiting the family. We prayed with them and loved them. We tried to be helpful. We offered the comfort of the Lord. We kept building them up. Then, God did take the boy home to be with Him.

This couple went through their time of mourning, but joy did come for them. They were soon baptized in our church and had two more children after the boy's death. Certainly, they miss their boy to this day. Still, they know the boy lives just as Jesus Christ lives, for Christ is the resurrection and the life. This couple became two of the happiest Christians I ever met.

After every night season, morning comes. God is there. He will help you. Weeping endures for a night; joy comes in the morning. Just as sure as you are breathing, the sunshine breaks through. The clouds part, and there is blue sky. A rainbow is on the horizon of your heart. God is faithful to you, and you can confess that morning will come. It always comes.

The prodigal son went through the night season of sin. But he came to himself and went back home. His father restored him gloriously. Weeping only lasts for a moment, but joy does come in the morning (Psalm 30:5). Maybe you

are going through financial problems—and some of these can be very serious. Can I tell you this? Morning will come.

Get Off the Shelf and Get Busy

Some of you think you are on the shelf. You think God cannot use you. Morning will come. It is the devil who is telling you that you cannot be used by God. It is hell that wants to keep you on the shelf collecting dust. Don't believe that lie.

Let morning come. Get up, get going, and get busy for God. He has called you and He will use you mightily.

I met one lady who was confined to a wheelchair at age 26. Her disease was terminal and she was really living in self-pity. It took some humor and some investment until she came out of her misery, but morning did come for her one day. She began to minister to people by writing hundreds of letters to people she picked out of the phone book. She just told them about Jesus and what He meant to her. She would also make phone calls that would go like this:

“Hi, my name is Susan and I am in a wheelchair. Do you have three or four minutes? I want to share with you the amazing blessings of Jesus

Christ and what He has done in my life.”

Now, that’s a confession. She found God’s provision for her situation, and that became her confession.

CONCLUSION

Susan, the lady in the wheelchair, found something to do with her life. She put her hand to the plough and did not turn back. She was faithful in what she was called to do and she did it with all of her might. Bible studies were started because of the letters she wrote. God did not heal her, but He certainly used her.

Morning always comes, and you can be sure of this. You can confess Christ, you can allow God to develop your potential, and you can be ready to go forward in Jesus.

Do the little things with all your might. God will make a ruler out of you.

Confess who God is. Confess this truth in praise. Confess it in singing. Confess it to your friends. Confess it and let the angels hear of the great things God is doing for you.

Confess it out loud. Everything the Bible says about the Lord is true. You can be sure of it. Let it be known.

Be faithful in those small things and God will honor your faithfulness. Believe Him for those things with all your heart and watch for His provision in every situation. No matter how dark your night season, God has a glorious morning for you.