

## ***Partnering with Jesus: Faith for Supernatural Increase in Finances***

### **I. THE IMPORTANCE OF GROWING IN FAITH**

- A. Jesus taught on the importance of faith as a foundational principle in the kingdom of God. We will experience more of His kingdom activity and Jesus' provision for us, and we will enjoy our relationship with Him more—as we believe Him for more of His promises.

***<sup>13</sup>Jesus said to the centurion, "...as you have believed, so let it be done for you." (Mt. 8:13)***

***<sup>29</sup>Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith let it be to you." (Mt. 9:29)***

- B. We must intentionally cultivate growing in faith by hearing and speaking God's word (Rom. 10:17).

***<sup>17</sup>So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. (Rom. 10:17)***

- C. Jesus described how faith operates. He indicated that we receive our answers to prayer in two ways. First, we "receive" them in the spirit realm (v. 24b), and then we "have" them in the natural (v. 24c) when we see them with our eyes. We need to be aware of the distinction between the spiritual and the natural realms to understand how prayer works.

***<sup>23</sup>"...whoever...believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.***

***<sup>24</sup>"Therefore, I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them [in the spirit], and you will have them [in the natural]." (Mk. 11:23-24)***

- D. Faith is the substance (title deed) of what we possess in the spirit before it manifests in the natural. Biblical promises are like a "title deed" to what we already possess in the spirit.

***<sup>1</sup>Now faith is the substance [title deed] of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen... (Heb. 11:1)***

- E. When Scripture states that God *hears* our prayers, it means that He *approves* of our requests. When we pray according to God's promises and His will, we can have confidence that He approves of the request. It is at this time that we "receive" the request in the spirit realm.

***<sup>14</sup>Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. (1 Jn. 5:14)***

- F. We are to engage in faith for God's promises or our requests that we have "received" in the spirit. Jesus spoke of continually believing that we have received the "title deed" (in the spirit realm) to our prayer requests as the condition for receiving them in the natural realm. The devil seeks to overwhelm us with guilt, fear, or unbelief so that we do not persistently engage in faith.

- G. We must confess the Word over our heart and circumstances and against the works of the enemy.

- H. We are to ask with persistence (Lk. 11:8), or continually remind God of His promises (Isa. 62:6). We remind Him of and thank Him for what He has given us in the spirit realm.

***<sup>6</sup>"...you who remind the Lord, take no rest for yourselves; <sup>7</sup>and give Him no rest until He establishes [what He promised]..." (Isa. 62:6-7, NASB).***

- I. Prayer is not about informing or persuading God, but about conversing and connecting with Him relationally with faith as we believe His Word about what He releases to us in the spirit realm.

## II. FAITH AND FINANCES

- A. Jesus taught that God returns blessing to us in proportion to the measure of our giving (Lk. 6:38). Money is one of the most prominent themes in the Bible. We are called to believe that He will provide us with a greater ability to give to His kingdom and others so we might express more love.
- <sup>38</sup>Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.” (Lk. 6:38)***
- B. The Father is looking for partners to be a “source of supply” for His kingdom purposes.
- <sup>6</sup>He who sows sparingly will reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will reap bountifully. (2 Cor. 9:6)***
- C. Our love for Jesus is not minimized by believing God’s promises to bless our bodies and finances so that we can partner more with Him in the building up of His kingdom.
- <sup>2</sup>I pray that you prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers. (3 Jn. 2)***
- D. Giving involves emotional dynamics that cause us to wrestle with who we trust as our ultimate source—the Lord or ourselves? Faith and fear are the spiritual battlefield in our every-day life. Our emotions are deeply engaged and openly expressed through the way we handle our money.
- <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Mt. 6:21)***

## III. GOD’S PROMISE OF AN OPEN HEAVEN

- A. God promises to open the financial windows of heaven (supernatural) and to rebuke the devourer if God’s people will obey and believe Him with their money. He commands His people to bring in all the tithes. Tithing speaks of giving 10% of all of our financial resources to the kingdom of God.
- <sup>10</sup>“Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this,” says the LORD of hosts, “If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. <sup>11</sup>I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit...” says the LORD of hosts. (Mal. 3:10-11)***
- B. Giving with faith releases God’s activity in our lives (spiritually, relationally, financially, etc.). God requires tithing because His people often *default to fear* related to their money. Fear refuses to give financially; this shuts down the process of supernatural multiplication. Tithing is the beginning, not the ceiling, in our giving and connecting with God in our money.
- C. We refuse the spirit of poverty with its *mentality of lack*. We can overcome fear related to money by operating in the opposite spirit as we give with faith. Our only limitation is God’s will for each of our lives, not our own ability to make money.

## IV. QUESTIONS FOR SMALL-GROUP DISCUSSION (E. G., FCF FRIENDSHIP GROUPS)

1. Identify one point that inspired or challenged you. Why? What will you do differently to apply it?
2. Identify one point that you want to impart to a younger believer. Why? How will you approach this?
3. Identify one point that you would like to gain more understanding of. How will you seek to gain it?