

WEEK 1

Multiply!

Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." Genesis 1.28

Increase is from the Lord. He will never ask us to do something He has not equipped us to do.

"But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty." Matthew 13.23

Understanding or keeping the word in this context means doing what it says by faith. You hear from God, you do what it says... and then it is the word that produces a harvest. You need to expect a harvest if you want one.

WEEK 2

Cain's Way

We learn an important lesson from Cain and God's interaction over a moment when the offering is presented. Abel's offering is in faith: obedience to the instruction that he had received. Cain's offering is not in faith: he disobeyed God in something. Whatever it was it was enough to open the door for greater sin to come in... anger and murder. The essential aspect of disobedience was to a) despise instruction from God and b) believe that his own way of presenting the offering was right before God. I don't know if he missed the time, type or anything else regarding the offering but I know that He did not tremble at God's word and therefore there was no obedience to what the Lord had told him to do. In Acts 5 Ananias and Shaphira also thought they knew better. The Holy Spirit had been leading disciples to bring big offerings to the apostles. Ananias and Shaphira wanted to keep part of the proceeds from the sale of their property. However, Peter confronts them saying that they had not lied to men but to the Holy Spirit. They both died because they walked the way of Cain.

Original Hebrew gives a bit more clarity on this lesson of faith that Abel teaches us. *'Now Abel WAS a shepherd, and Cain WAS a farmer.'* In Hebrew the word used is 'Va-Yehi' when speaking about Abel but 'Hayah' in the case of Cain. The first word suggests that 'it was forced upon' Abel while the second word 'Hayah' indicates that it was a 'choice' for Cain. Cain may have been instructed to do Abel's type of work. If you consider the scripture carefully you can see that Cain's offering was "some" of the

product of the soil but Abel's was "fat portions from the firstborn of his flock." It is not clear that Cain brought from his crops and that it was the best part. However, Abel brought his best and used his offering as a representation of his life before God.

Some of these insights are gathered from <https://www.hebrewversity.com/> For those interested in basic Biblical Hebrew.

WEEK 3

Building an altar at the right time

Gen 8.20 -22. After the flood Noah decides that the first thing to do before finding shelter or food is to build an altar the Lord and sacrifice from the clean animals that the Lord had entrusted to him. The Lord spoke a promise to about seasons of seed and harvest. Furthermore, He blesses Noah with a commandment: be fruitful and multiply. When God brings you to a new season remember to sacrifice unto Him with thanksgiving. A new season needs a new word to launch into the fulfilment of His promise.

WEEK 4

Abram, leave your father's house!

Gen. 12.1 The Lord commands Abram to leave his country, his people and his father's house. Abram steps into faith by making a big sacrifice. He has to leave behind everything that is comfortable and familiar. He needs to leave his earthly culture behind. The book of Hebrews tells us that he goes forth looking for a city made by God. It is a picture of the necessary training of the people of God. If you want to invest your life into the Kingdom you need to know what He has required you to leave behind. May God give you a revelation to be set apart unto Him for His service.

WEEK 5

The fulfilment of your prophetic word: provision for the call

Gen 15.14. And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions.

The Lord had spoken to Abraham about the future of his people. When the Israelites left Egypt (Ex 12.35-36), the Lord moved among them so that the Egyptians would

surrender their possessions to the people of God. It was a prophetic fulfillment and a sign that they were ready to go. As you consider the call of God upon your life, remember what He has spoken to you: a new season will bring the provision to carry out the task God has given you.

WEEK 6

Joseph had a dream

The Lord communicated with Joseph through dreams about his future. Joseph had to face adversity again and again but he found the key to prosperity: treasure the presence of God. God prospered him in and over every circumstance. Joseph's dream burned inside of him so intensely that he would not depart from righteous behavior. He became wise through suffering so he could eventually bring a group of people into freedom. If you don't despise God's training journey you will enter into His purpose to be a blessing to many.

WEEK 7

Cast your nets

Simon got in a few hours many lessons that transformed his life. True conviction came into his heart and he decided to follow Jesus.

"Launch into the deep"... Jesus is telling Simon (Peter) to obey a word to get a financial breakthrough. Why did Jesus choose Peter? Was it because he was a leader? Was it because his heart was ready to receive and obey instruction from Jesus? I think it could have been because it was his boat or business asset that was used for the preaching of the word. Investment in the Kingdom will bring you investment from the Kingdom for the blessing of many... our house was used for worship and the preaching of the word this week so we are ready to receive a blessing from the Lord to be a blessing to many. Invest in the Kingdom this week...

Simon Peter is challenged to go into the deep to get a blessing that he won't be able to manage. He needs to cry out for help.

When you pray to the Lord, do you ask for a blessing for yourself only or for your family, church members and friends? What if the work that you have to do will cause your nets to tear or your boat to sink?

If we don't have a vision to bless others we may miss His blessing. The Lord desires to bring together people, to help them to bless each other but those who do need His wisdom and power, because it will take supernatural ability to deal with supernatural assignments.

WEEK 8

Let Jesus sleep

Matthew 8.23-27 tells us a story about the power of God to overcome. Jesus knows there is going to be a storm but decides to take a nap. First, what storm has ever let you get any sleep? Jesus' nap in a time of trouble is an expression of his power over the storm. The common preaching here is that the disciples did not have enough faith to rebuke the storm. But what if their faith was not strong enough to take a nap with Jesus? Isa 30.15 "In quietness and confidence (trust) shall be your strength." In Acts 12.6 we see Peter sleeping between 2 soldiers when he thought he might be killed. What if your step of faith today would be to surrender your situation to the Lord and take a nap?

WEEK 9

Hannah's exchange

In 1 Samuel 1.11 we read about a sacrificial prayer that Hannah made to the Lord at the temple. In her suffering she prayed for a son that she would then commit to the Lord: "O Lord of hosts, if You will indeed look on the affliction of Your maidservant and remember me, and not forget Your maidservant, but will give Your maidservant a male child, then I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life" Her love for the Lord was so great that she perceived the will of God to have a spiritual leader in Israel (Samuel). She sought His Kingdom first and it cost her greatly but she had great joy and the Lord blessed her with other children. It is easy to say we seek His Kingdom first, let's learn from Hannah and seek Him and His Kingdom today with a sacrifice that can be measured.

WEEK 10

An offering that transforms a nation

In 1 Kings 18 Elijah prepares for a great victory that changes the nation. 32 'Then with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord; and he made a trench around the altar large enough to hold two seahs of seed. 33 And he put the wood in order, cut the

bull in pieces, and laid it on the wood, and said, "Fill four waterpots with water, and pour it on the burnt sacrifice and on the wood." If you want the fire of God you need to dig a trench and fill it with water. It takes effort to surrender dirt to God by seeking His Face with all our heart in repentance. It is not a recognized or glamorous work. It is done in hiding. Then invite the Holy Spirit to fill you and prepare you for the burning word of God that will transform your life. This will cost us much water when water is scarce. We need to learn to sacrifice to God what is essential to us. As transformed people you will have the power to execute decrees in the spirit to transform a nation.

WEEK 11

Strike the earth with My arrows

In the Old Testament we see victories in battle as a sign of financial breakthrough. This is because of the spoils of war. In his sickness, Elisha helps the unrighteous king Joash with his request. The king asks for God's favor and Elisha presents him with two challenges: shoot an arrow through the east window (the earthly action, place of comfort and Joash's paradigm), the second challenge is open-ended to test Joash's heart. Elisha commands him to strike the ground (the heavenly action, a place of discomfort, and in God's paradigm). God is speaking to him prophetically: "if you strike the ground with your arrows and persevere I will strike the earth with My arrows and give you a complete victory." Joash does not discern God's intention and he strikes the ground only three times. His partial obedience brings him defeat. This is the same problem Cain faced (see blog post about Cain): when we interpret God's direction without revelation we will always give God in part and out of compulsion. God was teaching us that complete obedience will always bring complete provision from heaven. May the Lord grant you a victory today!

WEEK 12

Resurrected dreams

2 Kings 4 tells us about a woman committed to making her house a place of refreshing and rest for prophet Elisha. It was a continuous and increasing investment that created a miracle. Elisha wanted to bless her. He found out that she had no children and NO faith for a son. That was not a problem for Elisha because she had built a path for a miracle to come to her unknowingly. Let's invest in the Kingdom today and create room for miracles!

WEEK 13

What a weariness!

*Malachi 1.13: You also say, 'Oh, what a weariness!'
And you sneer at it," Says the Lord of hosts.
"And you bring the stolen, the lame, and the sick;
Thus you bring an offering!*

God is interested in what you give and how you give it. It is sometimes easy to take the work of the Lord as a boring duty and offerings to the Lord as a burden. The quality of our hearts will determine the quality of the offering. The challenge that God presents us is to bring Him the best out of a desire to bless Him. It is an honor and a privilege to serve Him. May the Lord transform our hearts so that our offerings and ourselves will be received by the Lord today.

WEEK 14

Treasures in heaven?

Mat 6.19-21 *"but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."* Jesus talks about money from verse 19 to 34. It is a coherent message so that the followers can surrender to God and worship God and not mammon. One of the key points here is the word treasure. If you surrender your earthly treasures to God, worship to God will follow. If you don't you are already worshipping mammon without knowing it. The other key point Jesus is making is that you need to check your heart because it will follow your treasure. Decide today to surrender your meager earthly possessions, talents, and time to God and learn how to worship Him.

WEEK 15

A sweet and fragrant sacrifice

Mat 26.6-10 mentions a woman who pours very expensive and fragrant oil on Jesus' head. This offering represents 3 insults to the religious mindset: 1) a woman brings an offering (gender discrimination) 2) it's an extravagant offering for Jesus alone highlighting our selfishness and stinginess and 3) it is directed to emphasize the cross (an offense to the earthly mindset). After this offering, Judas was led to betray Jesus. Let's not betray Jesus when we see an unexpected person bring an extravagant offering to Him today.

WEEK 16

When the poor teach the church fresh perspectives

Luke 21.1-4 Jesus talks about a widow who had only two mites and decided to give everything to God. That type of sacrifice made Jesus take notice and teach about it: it was a generous gift. The sacrificial gift was given out of poverty making it more valuable. It cost the widow something. May we all appreciate small contributions from the poor that will move God's hand to work on their behalf today, may we join them in their faith and learn from them.

WEEK 17

Must I be a living sacrifice to distribute to the needs of the saints?

Romans 12 tells us a simple story of the benefits of surrendering to God: experiencing the will of God. You can see how the body of Christ is rich in gifts to be distributed to everyone. If you want to obey God you need to discover the gifts that God has given you to bless people. How are we distributing practically to the needs of the saints? If you know that you have more than enough, how can you meet a brother's need today? As you give in faith also expect a blessing to come your way.

WEEK 18

On finding, selling and buying (Radical Faith)

Mat 13.44 "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."

We find a man that is looking for God (a treasure), and he finds Him. He experiences such great joy and appreciates that treasure so much that he does not hesitate to sell everything to purchase that field. What was the price of the field? Everything. Jesus tells us in Luke 14.33 that whoever does not forsake all he has cannot be His disciple. Only the light of the Word and the fire of the Spirit can do a work in our hearts to transform us. Let's ask God to reveal Himself to us and our attachments to this world. In our surrender He will finish a faith work in our hearts...there is a shift coming... lift up your eyes and change your perspective. The Lord is waiting for those who truly want to serve Him.

WEEK 19

Righteousness: the Love of God manifested through giving by faith

John 3.16 tells us that God so loved the world so He gave His Son. Redeeming the world was so important to Him that He paid the highest price as proof of His love towards us. 1 John 3.16 tell us “This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.” If we want to seek His Kingdom and His Righteousness let us make sacrificial giving towards each other (in the church) a lifestyle. Then we can start giving outside the church with confidence taking care of those suffering. The motivation should always be the revelation of His Word and the moving of His Spirit, because our daily expectation should be that He will confirm our giving by showing up with His power. Make giving by faith a lifestyle.

WEEK 20

Turn your ear to wisdom and heart to understanding...

Proverbs 2 talks about a mindset and attitude that pleases God. He is the only one who can help us hear what He says (spiritual hearing) and understand what He say (spiritual understanding). This is a disposition to keep and treasure in order to obey... walking in righteousness, for instance to share with those in need. His promise is success and protection. You will see how the Lord will lead to you perform His will and you will experience protection in many ways. The Lord is interested in your success to fulfil the plans He has for you... commit yourself to the Word and to hearing and understanding what the Holy Spirit tells you.

WEEK 21

Robbing God of His treasured possession

“They will be Mine,” says the LORD of Hosts, “on the day when I prepare My treasured possession. And I will spare them as a man spares his own son who serves him. Mal 3.17. In the same book Mal 3.8 God says His people are robbing Him. It is very difficult for people who do not understand God that He does not really need their money. That is why they cannot understand what God is after and they do not see obedience to God’s word as necessary. Unfortunately, they do not understand that in tithes and offerings we surrender ourselves to God by faith. That enables God to transform us into His treasured possession of obedient sons and daughters who serve Him. Commit your

heart this year to the Lord, to serve Him beginning with your tithes and offerings and expect His Kingdom and His provision to manifest around you.

WEEK 22

What is Jesus about to do in your church?

In Matthew 26:6–13, and Luke 7:36–50 we read about one (or two) women who anointed Jesus. John 11.2 indicates it could have been the same woman (Mary). In Luke 7 the act of repentance (tears) in humility (using her hair to dry His feet) is connected to the sacrificial act of love breaking the alabaster jar to anoint His feet with precious oil. That woman receives forgiveness from Jesus and she is restored. In Mat 26, Mary is doing the same thing by anointing Jesus head preparing Him for His death on the cross. On both occasions a sacrifice in faith is done led by the Holy Spirit to encourage and prepare Jesus for His ultimate sacrifice. The anointing of Jesus is a prophetic sacrifice making a way for Jesus to finish His work. What is the work that Jesus is about to do in your church and how are you going to invest in it?

WEEK 23

Extravagant Investment in the Gospel

Luke 7.36-50 (Mat 26.6, Mark 14.3, John 12.1) The gospels show us two extreme examples of how to approach Jesus and His gospel. On the one hand you have the disciples who do NOT want to see Jesus die on the cross. They make that point clearly at different times: “this shall never happen to you” (Mat 16.22) and Mat 17.23/Mat 26.14. On the other hand two women anoint Jesus’ feet (Luke 7.36) and head (Mat 26.6). These extravagant offerings focused on the cross (Mat 26.12) are an insult to the disciples but not to Jesus. We see the Holy Spirit is working through women to prepare Jesus for His great sacrifice on the cross. Let’s learn from those women today and sow generously to make the gospel of the cross and resurrection be known and experienced by many today.

WEEK 24

Mat 6.23-24 “If your eyes are bad” you cannot serve two masters.

There are many translations of this verse in Biblehub.com and they are all wrong. This is unfortunate because it has to do with being generous and therefore worshipping God. It is just a Hebrew idiom...<https://juchre.org/articles/eye.htm>

The most interesting insight about these two verses is that they describe hidden behaviors of love and hatred. Being stingy and lacking practical compassion is defined as loving money and hating God. Generosity towards others is love towards God. This polarity represents the spiritual reality that needs to be understood and experienced with the help of the Holy Spirit.

WEEK 25

The decisions of a humble heart

Philippians 2 provides a picture of the humility of Christ coming to Earth as a man and humbling himself to death on the cross. Jesus' full obedience was to lead a life of humility before God. Paul exhorts the people of God to do the same. Jesus' example is given as a reference of the type of mindset to acquire to serve. This is explained in verse 2 “in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself” and verse 3 “look out ... for the interests of others.” This is the type of mindset Timothy had (verse 20) who “will sincerely care for your state” (Philippians). This further explained comparing it to the mindset of people who go in the opposite direction: “For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus.” A selfless mindset will look for the things which are of Christ Jesus by helping others.

Philippians 2.7 “taking the form of a bondservant.” Jesus took the form of a bondservant of God when He came to earth. His death on the cross is a sign of God's love for us (John 3.16). Those redeemed by His blood and who have decided to follow Him are Christ's bondservants (or he who was called in the Lord being a bondservant is the Lord's free man. 1. Cor 7.22). Bondservants are servants motivated by love. In our case it is the love of God. If we want to seek His Kingdom we must have an experiential revelation of His love.

WEEK 26

“You of little faith”

In Mat 16: 5-12 Jesus is warning his disciples about the yeast of the Pharisees, after the Pharisees asked Him for a sign from heaven to validate His ministry or identity. The disciples start discussing about who forgot to bring bread for the trip and Jesus notices

that they have little faith despite the miracles of provision he had previously provided to feed thousands of people. First, the disciples are trusting their own provision instead of Jesus provision (= no faith). Second, the disciples failed to learn one lesson from two miracles: if Jesus is with you He provides for you (=no faith). Third, His provision is intimately related to our Father's desire in heaven and also Jesus identity. That was the key point the Pharisees wanted proof of through a sign. Jesus, the living bread, had given that sign to the disciples already. Finally, Jesus asks Peter about His identity.

WEEK 27

How we love Jesus...

In John 21 we hear Jesus ask Peter if he loved Him three times. Many have taken this event as an act of reconciliation because of Peter's denial. However, it the intention is connected with Mat 4.19 (Jesus promises of Simon's transformation and commission – fishers of men). Jesus tells him that out of Peter's love he should feed His lambs, tend His sheep and feed His sheep. This is an upgrade from the work of an evangelist to the work of discipleship. Discipleship done out of the pure love of God will bring the increase of God. This is not a magic formula but a divine principle for growth. May the Lord raise thousands of disciples willing to disciple Jesus' way.

WEEK 28

Only 2 coins?

Mark 12 43 Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. 44 They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on." – It takes the eyes of faith to see how Jesus values the poor widow's offering: Jesus is saying that sacrifice counts in heaven. We can give God the leftovers of our lives or we can give Him the best. An offering to God should always be an act of faith and trust in God, a representation of our lives surrendered to Him.

WEEK 29

On humility and faith

Mat 8:5-10 When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help. 6 "Lord," he said, "my servant lies at home paralyzed, suffering terribly." Jesus said to him, "Shall I come and heal him?" The centurion replied, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he

does it.” When Jesus heard this, he was amazed and said to those following him, “Truly I tell you, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith” The centurion shows three types of humility. Social humility by interceding on behalf of someone lower than him in society. Cultural humility by interceding for someone from a different culture. And political humility by recognizing of Jesus spiritual authority from His Kingdom being a Roman authority in Israel. Let us ask Jesus on behalf of others ‘lower’ and different to us in the eyes of man, God sees us under a the lens of faith.

WEEK 30

The price of sacrifice

To give something expensive is easy, but to understand sacrifice you need to give something valuable (KVMinistries)

WEEK 31

Leaving earthly things behind

In John 4.34 Jesus says “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work.” In John 4.28 we read “then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people...” Both Jesus and the Samaritan woman decide to put Kingdom needs first and leave physical needs behind. Jesus pays a price to bring a word of salvation to a woman, and the woman led by the joy of salvation and by the Spirit of God pays a price to bring the word of salvation to a city... when there is joy and urgency... when we prioritize the things of God you will see it will be easy to put our physical needs behind. May the Lord lead us to fast and pray for the salvation of a city in July.

WEEK 32

The hidden purpose of the blessing

Luke 5: 1-11. In Matthew 5 Jesus has an encounter with Simon Peter. Peter lends Jesus his boat to preach out of generosity (not faith). However, when Jesus has finished preaching, He challenges Peter to go into the deep for a catch. Peter recognizes that his fishing expertise is not going to help him at that moment. He had done his best throughout the night with no success: he was empty. But he accepted the challenge because it came from spiritual authority and obeyed the word at an inconvenient time. The miracle of the great catch brought him great conviction. His excitement for the fish was gone. He just saw himself as a sinful man and confessed that before Christ. Finally, Jesus invited them to follow Him. The miracle’s purpose was a heart conversion. The

fish were left behind to feed the people. How are the miracles of God changing your heart to empower you to repent and follow Jesus?

WEEK 33

Offering ourselves: our greatest gift to the Lord

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments." John 14.15 shows us the main motivation to follow Christ's footsteps. There is a love so great that He has for us that if we experience it, we can't stop loving Him and obeying His commandments. He gave us his love and said, "Greater love is no love than to give life for friends." (John 15.13) In a meeting as a living sacrifice we have to experience God's love. It's that love: the revelation of his death on the cross, which will give us the strength and courage to love others. Only the love of Christ can help us to love enemies and other people who are far from God's love. Only through our offering as people before God will we be transformed so that we can BE His message in this world.

WEEK 34

Sacrifice "For My Name and the gospel"

Mark 10:29-30 tells us about Jesus' promise to the disciples. They had left everything behind to follow Him. And Jesus promises that they will receive a reward in this life and also eternal life. The key point in this scripture reminds us of Mark 8.35 when Jesus said *"For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and for the gospel will save it."* He is talking about the cost of discipleship... taking up the cross and following Him. A key learning point is that discipleship is found in a transformational experience with Jesus Christ where the disciples invest in His Name and the gospel by leaving everything behind. That was an empowering sacrifice because the motivation was right: to become an ambassador of the gospel. That fulfilled Jesus' promise to make them fishers of men (Mat 4.19).

WEEK 35

The essence of giving

John 15.13 / John 3.16 – *"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."* When Jesus teaches His disciples to love each other, he does it from His own perspective of sacrificial giving. He has been teaching, imparting, serving and loving them and He knows that He will suffer a violent death on the cross for them. His giving is not legalistic, He is obedient to the love of the Father expressed through the Holy Spirit. He is driven by that love and knows that He is showing the love of the

Father by the expression of His power. The love of the Father is first expressed in the church (John 15.17 – “love each other”) and then through the church (John 15.16 – “you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last”). How can we express His love to each other in the church today?

WEEK 36

One thing you lack

Mark 10.21 ‘Jesus looked at him, loved him, and said to him, “There is one thing you lack: Go, sell everything you own and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow Me.” But the man was saddened by these words and went away in sorrow, because he had great wealth.’

We notice that the man who approached Jesus had a conviction that there was more to God’s purpose for him than what he had experienced. The conviction that the Holy Spirit brings is a gift to us. However, he did not have understanding for he valued treasure on earth more than treasure in heaven. Jesus did two things: He promised that he would keep his treasure but just on a different place, and he promised him a different type of provision on earth. Jesus could have asked him for a contribution towards His ministry, however, He also humbled Himself and told him: come and follow me so that you can learn to trust My Father and Me for provision as we train you about your calling and purpose on earth. There was a hidden message of provision and a greater blessing for him, but he understood it as poverty. Let’s make the exchange to day for the wonderful treasure that we can discover in Christ.

WEEK 37

One thousand offerings

1 Kings 3.4 Since Gabaon was the most important pagan sanctuary, Solomon used to go there to offer sacrifices. He offered a thousand holocausts there. One of the most important principles of our offering is to offer from the heart.” Gabaon was the most important place where the Tabernacle resided. It was the site of one of Joshua's most important victories (Josue 10.16). God didn't mind that it was used as a pagan site. It was still an important and historic site. Solomon sacrificed 1000 holocausts in his attempt to connect with God... and had a dream with God where he asked him for wisdom. Sometimes we have to go back to the place of the first victory, to the most important place in our history with God in order to sacrifice our lives to God again. It's our second chance.

WEEK 38

The offering within the offering

2 Sam 24.24 However, the king said to Araunah, "No, but I will certainly buy it from you for a price; for I will not offer burnt offerings to the Lord my God that cost me nothing."

King David bought a place to sacrifice for 50 shekels of silver. He had buy the oxen and the land from Araunah. King David knew that if he had humbled himself before God and Araunah, and if he had taken advantage of his position as a king, the sacrifice would have not been accepted. The amazing thing is that Araunah got to contribute the wood for the offering. King David paid a price to obey the word of the prophet Gad and partnered with Araunah in the sacrificial intercession for the Land. May you receive the word to intercede today through your sacrifice and partner with the church to bless your city.

WEEK 39

Serving two masters

Mat 6.24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or will esteem the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and riches."

This verse only has meaning in the context of the ""healthy eye"" (Mat 6.22) — it's a Hebrew saying that means "being generous." "Jesus is saying that generosity to others is to love God and to despise riches." If you read all of Mat 6 you can see that God provides for your needs if you seek the Kingdom of God and His righteousness.. but how to do it? share with others.

WEEK 40

The virgins teach us wisdom

Awakening, discernment, work and judgment. Matthew chapter 25 seems to outline the work of the Holy Spirit: virgins who worship with a pure heart and shine with the light of God (conviction of sin), servants who work and others who do not work (conviction of righteousness), and separation from sheep of the goats (conviction of the eternal judgment). One of the most difficult self-deceptions to understand is that of people who manifest false worship which leads to a lack of working in the Lord (sons), and not for the Lord (servants).

WEEK 41

No greater love

John 15.13 "Greater love has no one than this, that to lay down one's life for his friends." When Jesus teaches his disciples to express the Father's love, he does so from his own perspective of sacrificial giving. He had been teaching, teaching, serving and loving them knowing He would suffer a violent death on the cross for them. His giving is not legalistic, He is obedient to the Father's love expressed through the Holy Spirit.. That love moves Him and He knows His showing it by expressing His power healing and setting people free. The Father's love is shown in the church first (love one another) and through the church afterwards. How can we show that love today in our church and through our church?

WEEK 42

Complete investment in His Gospel.

Mark 10:29-30 tells us about Jesus' promise to the disciples. They had left everything behind to follow Him. And Jesus promises that they will receive a reward in this life and also eternal life. The key point in this scripture reminds us of Mark 8.35 when Jesus said *"For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and for the gospel will save it."* He is talking about the cost of discipleship... taking up the cross and following Him. A key learning point is that discipleship is found in a transformational experience with Jesus Christ where the disciples invest in His Name and the gospel by leaving everything behind. That was an empowering sacrifice because the motivation was right: to become an ambassador of the gospel. That fulfilled Jesus' promise to make them fishers of men (Mat 4.19). Let's approach His throne and ask Him to do that miracle once again.

WEEK 43

The hidden purpose of the blessing

Math 5. 1-11. Jesus meets Peter in this chapter. Petro lends his boat to Jesus so he can preach, and he does so with generosity but not with faith. Anyway, when Jesus finished preaching challenge Peter to cast the nets in a deeper place. Pedro admits that being an expert in fishing isn't enough for him. He fished all night but unsuccessfully. He was empty but he accepts the challenge that comes from a spiritual authority even if it is an *inconvenient moment*. The miracle of the great fishing brought great conviction to Peter. His joy for so many fish was over. He saw himself as a sinner in front of Jesus and confessed to him. Ultimately Jesus invites Peter to follow Him. The purpose of the

miracle was a conversion of the heart. They left the fish **behind** to feed the people. How are God's miracles giving you the power to repent, follow Jesus today and leave a blessing to others?

WEEK 44

God's promise and God's patience

Gen. 28.15 "I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." God speaks a promise to Jacob in a dream. This is a promise of presence and God's fulfilment of what He has previously spoken to Him. It takes Jacob 21 years, including 14 years in survival mode (with no wealth increase). Who is willing to wait 21 years for God to fulfil a promise today? A big dream from God and strong faith are required to build the perseverance and endurance to see God work on His promises for you.

WEEK 45

Leaving earthly things behind

In John 4.34 Jesus says *"My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work."* In John 4.28 we read *"then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people..."* Both Jesus and the Samaritan woman decide to put Kingdom needs first and leave physical needs behind. Jesus pays a price to bring a word of salvation to a woman, and the woman led by the joy of salvation and by the Spirit of God pays a price to bring the word of salvation to a city... when there is joy and urgency... when we prioritize the things of God you will see it will be easy to put our physical needs behind. May the Lord lead us to fast and pray for the salvation of a city this month.

WEEK 46

Investment in His promise

Mat 4.19. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."

Mat 9.27 "Peter answered him, 'We have left everything to follow you!'"

Matthew describes the investment that the disciples had to make to be trained by Jesus. It was an uncomfortable investment of walking, going to places, and trusting Jesus for provision. We know that this was not a 5-star hotel discipleship program with buffet meals. Jesus had them work, eat little, walk a lot and pray for people among many other tasks. The whole training process may have taken from one to three years, but at the end and by the power of the Holy Spirit they were sent to fish... and they did fish

effortlessly. Are you willing to invest everything in His Kingdom today for the harvest He has promised?

WEEK 47

Listen to God's original ways of provision!

Mat 17.27 "go to the lake and throw out your line. Take the first fish you catch; open its mouth and you will find a four-drachma coin. Take it and give it to them for my tax and yours."

Jesus commands Peter to do a work and the result is to have their taxes paid. He is saying that as long as we hear His voice and follow Him, He may send us to unexpected places to do different things in order to receive our miracle of provision. It takes double faith to believe that you are going to catch a fish and that you will find gold in it. In any case, provision was not only for Peter, but it was also to meet Jesus' need. May you prioritize Jesus need today as He works out everything for your debts to be paid on time.

WEEK 48

Listen to God's original ways of provision!

Luke 19.29-31. As He approached Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, He sent out two of His disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks, 'Why are you untying it?' tell him, 'The Lord needs it.'"

Jesus sends His disciples to do a work. He already knows where the provision is and has touched the hearts of people to sow into Jesus' plans. Provision in this case is just for the purpose of Jesus to enter Jerusalem as it was written about Him. How would it be if Jesus told you about the provision that needs to be made for Him to enter your city as the King? It is high time we prioritize His Kingdom and His visitation, for He will visit cities in a way He has never done before, to bring the Harvest, revival and a transformation of the city to meet the needs of God through His people.

WEEK 49

A basketful in a dry land

Mark 8.19. "When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many basketfuls of pieces did you pick up?" "Twelve," they replied.

The same Lord that is able to provide for His people, will provide in abundance for His disciples so that they can learn a lesson. The big challenge here was not provision of food only, but strength to carry those baskets a long way. If we do not keep our eyes on Jesus we will not have the strength to carry provision to purpose and learn the lesson. The remarkable story is not that Jesus provided the miracle, but that it was in a place of dryness or consecration to His Word. In an empty place God provided for His people. In a place disconnected from human provision, God provided. In a place that needed a miracle to survive, God helped His people survive so that they could continue the journey. When your circumstances say that it is impossible, God will give you a miracle to bring you to your purpose.

WEEK 50

Work for food that endures to eternal life

John 6.26-27 Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval."

I underlined "saw the signs" because Jesus reveals that this is a different type of seeing by the Holy Spirit and recognizing that the signs are speaking a different language. Don't get distracted by the provision but praise the Lord for His provision and learn from it. Those miracles speak of a good God, a merciful God, a God who provides in times of need, but who uses everything to teach. That is why it is a sign, it points us in a different direction. There is greater food (doing the will of God – John 4.34) that Jesus gives us. Jesus is willing to help us find a purpose in our work as we submit to His will. Food enables and empowers us to go on living. Jesus' food enables and empowers us to experience eternal life. In short, those who see signs in miracles will align their lives to work for Jesus.

WEEK 51

Empowered by the Lord

Exodus 31 1-5 "Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: "See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, to design artistic works, to work in gold, in silver, in bronze, in cutting jewels for setting, in carving wood, and to work in all manner of workmanship."

If you want to do the work of the Lord you need to be filled with His Spirit, and His wisdom, and His understanding, and His knowledge to do the work that He wants you to do. Discipleship is the work of a sculptor through the lives of people... to shape, clean and empower according to the provision of God. It is the Lord who gives the increase, it is the Lord who builds His house and it is Him who gets the glory when the work is done. He is shaping an army do take over and bring life to the city.

WEEK 52

Appointed by the Lord

Exodus 31.6-11 "And I, indeed I, have appointed with him Aholiab the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan; and I have put wisdom in the hearts of all the gifted artisans, that they may make all that I have commanded you: the tabernacle of meeting, the ark of the Testimony and the mercy seat that is on it, and all the furniture of the tabernacle— the table and its utensils, the pure gold lampstand with all its utensils, the altar of incense, the altar of burnt offering with all its utensils, and the laver and its base— the garments of ministry, the holy garments for Aaron the priest and the garments of his sons, to minister as priests, and the anointing oil and sweet incense for the holy place. According to all that I have commanded you they shall do."

The Lord needs to appoint us to the work He has given us. This needs to be confirmed by God and the people He has already appointed. The work is not random according to circumstances or our feelings. His work is exact and timely by the moving of His Holy Spirit. Make place in your heart for the wisdom of God to fulfil His mandate. Leaving everything behind is only one part, we need to embrace everything He has for us so we can be appointed and empowered for His plan.

I am reachable at kingdomfinances.us or hreina@gmail.com

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