

DAY 29 — RECEIVE AND GIVE

30 Days of Repentance + Heart Preparation | Make Room for God's Heart

Scripture: 1 Peter 4:10–11 · 2 Corinthians 1:3–7 · Matthew 10:7–8 · James 1:17

What We Receive Is Not Ours to Hoard

Every good gift begins with God. James reminds us that the Father is the source of what is good, while Peter reminds us that what we receive is entrusted to us for the sake of others. Our abilities, resources, encouragement, experiences, and opportunities are not merely evidence of personal blessing; they can become ways God's grace reaches another person.

Peter calls believers faithful stewards of grace in its various forms. That means the gifts do not all look alike. Some serve through words; others serve through quiet, practical care. The question is not whether our contribution looks impressive, but whether we are willing to use what God has placed in our hands, relying on the strength He supplies.

Comfort That Becomes Compassion

In 2 Corinthians, Paul describes God as the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort. God meets us in trouble, and His comfort equips us to stand beside others in theirs. Pain does not automatically make us wise or compassionate; yet the care we receive in our hardest seasons can teach us how to offer patient, genuine care without pretending to have every answer.

We do not have to relive our wounds to prove we understand someone else's. We can share hope, listen attentively, offer practical help, and point toward the One who sustained us. Receiving comfort is not selfish. Sometimes it is part of becoming able to give it.

Freely Received, Freely Given

When Jesus sent His disciples, He instructed them to give freely because they had received freely. Their mission was grounded in God's generosity, not a desire to earn status or create obligation. Our giving should likewise reflect grace rather than control, recognition, or repayment.

Giving faithfully does not mean ignoring wisdom, limits, or the needs of our own households. It means offering what we can with a willing heart and leaving the glory with God.

STUDY & REFLECT

1. What gifts, experiences, resources, or encouragement has God entrusted to me?

2. Where have I received comfort that could help me offer comfort to someone else?
3. Am I withholding something I could offer—or giving from pressure rather than love?
4. How can I serve in a way that points toward God rather than toward myself?

FAST — MAKING ROOM

Notice what fills the space you have set aside today. Is there room to receive God's care, not only to work harder at giving? Ask Him to show you one concrete, loving response you can make with what you already have.

TODAY'S INVITATION

Receive with gratitude. Give with humility. Trust God with the outcome.