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Bible Study Notes

in a dry and parched land

* God’s ways are perfect
* I thirst for you but do you here me?

*The phrase "thirst for righteousness" is found in Matthew 5:6 of the King James Version (KJV) of the Bible: "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." This verse emphasizes the spiritual longing for righteousness and* ***the promise of fulfillment*** *for those who seek it. Additionally, it highlights the importance of* ***spiritual hunger and thirst*** *in a vibrant Christian life*

**HUNGER AND THIRST**

**Matthew 5:6 KJV**

6 **Blessed are they which** do **hunger** and **thirst after righteousness**: for they shall be filled.

**A psalm of David. When he was in the Desert of Judah**.

**Psalm 63:1 NIV**

You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; **I thirst for you**, my whole being longs for you, **in a dry and parched land** where there is no water.

**Five Reasons God Might Not Be Blessing You**

***Are you feeling “skipped over” when it comes to God’s blessings in your life?***

Sometimes it’s easy to **feel neglected** when we look around at **others who appear to be prospering** and we appear to be getting the short end of the stick when it comes to God’s favor.

We know from Scripture that God is a good God who **loves to bless His children** (Matt. 7:11). At the same time, God knows our hearts, what we are capable of struggling with, and what’s around the corner for us, so if He chooses not to bless in a certain area, that might even be a blessing in itself.

**Based on decades of ministering**

Based on decades of ministering to others as a pastor and Bible teacher, and **seeing the blessings of God** come and go in my life and in the lives of others, here are just **five reasons God might not be blessing your life**:

You haven’t asked for the blessing.

How many times do **we get disgruntled at God because He hasn’t provided** for us when we haven’t taken the time to even ask Him for what we specifically need? Sure, God knows our needs. But He wants a relationship with us in which we come to Him, in faith, and ask for what we need.

**Scripture says** “You do not have **because you do not ask God**” (James 4:2). And Jesus told His followers: “Until now you have not asked for **anything in my name**. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete” (John 16:24). Start asking specifically and ***see what God wants to teach*** you about asking, **trusting,** and **being thankful**.

**2. You haven’t asked in faith.**

If you’re asking God for blessings and He’s still not answering that prayer, it could be that you are not asking in faith, truly believing He will answer. Jesus told His followers: “Whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith” (Matthew 21:22) and “whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours” (Mark 11:24).

Jesus said everything is possible to the one who believes (Mark 9:23). If you’re having trouble believing that, ask Him to help your unbelief. Jesus honored the sincerity of the man who asked for something and followed it up with “help me overcome my unbelief!” (Mark 9:24).

**3. You’re asking with the wrong motives.**

Have you ever wondered why God doesn’t answer people’s prayers to win the lottery? James 4:3 gives us insight: “When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.”

**Try asking God for blessings that will help you bless others**. Or try asking Him to bless others first, rather than yourself. Psalm 37:4 says “**Delight yourself in the Lord** and He will give you the desires of your heart.” If He is your desire and your delight, it will delight His heart to grant your desires.

**4. You’re all about you.**

I recently received an email from a man **demanding to know why God wasn’t blessing him**. He recounted one unfortunate situation after another and, in a **tone of bitterness**, expressed his utter **disappointment in God**. His email was littered with references to “I,” “me” and “my.” He never asked **what he could do to please God**, only complained at how God hadn’t pleased him. **He didn’t talk about his obedience** or any desire he had to be a child whose Father would be pleased to bless him. In fact, he never even referred to a Father-child relationship with God.

**God is not a glorified Santa Claus**

God is not a glorified **Santa Claus**. **Nor is He obligated to bless any of us**. If you’re all about you, and what God is or isn’t giving you, God might be choosing not to bless your life until you become all about Him(Luke 9:23). When you die to self (Galatians 2:20), your focus won’t be on whether or not you’re being blessed, but on how to be a blessing to God.

**5. God’s timing is different than yours.**

Ecclesiastes 3:1 assures us: “**There is a time for everything**, and **a season for every activity under the heavens**.” I believe that includes a season for blessings. God may want you to wait and grow in dependence on Him before He gives you something.

Scripture also tells us that **God’s ways are perfect** and **His Word is flawless** (Psalm 18:30). That means He knows when it’s the right time for us to receive certain blessings and when it’s not.

**Hebrews 6:10 ESV**

For **God is not unjust** so as to **overlook your work** and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do.