

Week Three: Abundance

## Abundance: Are you in relationship with God?

God wants relationship with you.

John 10:9-10: "I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

What are you filling your life with? What are you pursuing?

Abundance is seen in Psalm 23: 5-6: "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

Five types of abundance are found in II Corinthians:

- 1. Abundant Finance:
- 2. Abundant Relationships:
- 3. Abundant Righteousness:
- 4. Abundant Ministry:
- 5. Abundant Worship:

Obedience brings blessings!

## **Abundance: Week Three Unedited Video Transcript**

Welcome to week three of this 21-day prayer journey, Questing After God's Heart. God desperately wants a relationship with us. So desperately that he sent his only son to suffer and die on the cross for us. In this day-to-day world, oftentimes we are chasing things and status that we fill our lives with that should be filled with Christ's. Now there's a passage I'd like to share with you in John chapter 10, verses 9 and 10: I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal kill and destroy. I have come that you may have life and have it to the full.

Christ wants us to have a full life within him and to live fully within Christ and to live it more abundantly. What we need to do is stop filling our lives with things in a chase after status. But fill our live with him.

The word abundance is summed up in Psalm 23: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil. My cup overflows. Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

The Lord wants to bless us abundantly. In 2nd Corinthians we find five different types of abundance.:

The first one we find is abundant finance. Now this isn't prosperity gospel, but we must understand that this is one of the ways the Lord may choose to bless us.

The second one is abundant relationships. Generous people have a lot of neat relationships.

The third is abundant righteousness. Maybe you're struggling with a sin issue you just can't seem to conquer. Maybe you conquer it for three months and then it comes back and there's this cycle. This vicious cycle that continues on and on. Maybe there's an obedience issue in your life you need to address.

The fourth one is abundant ministry. Maybe the Lord hasn't used you for awhile. Maybe you haven't been used for the Lord at all. Maybe there's an obedience issue in your life that's blocking that flow.

The fifth one is abundant worship. Maybe you haven't heard from the Lord in your personal time in awhile. And maybe you haven't even been doing personal time. Maybe there's an obedience issue blocking that flow as well.

I was teaching a class on abundance and I got a phone call the day before the class from a couple going through divorce, and they asked me if it was okay if we still attend the course, and I said of course. And so they came that morning, and we talked about debt, dishonest gain, and distraction. When they went home, they had talked all afternoon. I got a call from the husband in the evening and he said, Hey, I need to tell you why we're going through divorce. It's because we have crushing financial issues and we owe back taxes to the IRS, five years over \$25,000. We have an appointment with an IRS agent coming up in 10 days. Would you pray for us? And I said, of course. The second week of o the course came around and he came up to me and said, I want you to know this is the first week we've ever tithed. We went on that day and we taught the course on abundance. The IRS appointment was coming up in a few days and so we were praying for them. After that appointment he gave me a phone call and he told me he said, We met with the IRS agent and we just poured our heart out to them, what we've been going through, our struggles. The IRS agent left that office for what seemed like an hour. When the IRS agent returned, they forgave the debt they'd owed, the \$25,000 in debt. He no longer faced jail. Now I can tell you, God did an amazing miracle in that family and they're still married today. It's like this, it's like the Lord has a big bottle of abundance. H's trying to shake it out upon you. But there's a problem, there's a cork in the bottle, and there's only one thing that releases that cork from the bottle; and that's our generosity. Being generous releases the flow of abundance. Now there's an accelerant to the flow of abundance. The accelerant is our faith. God requires us to make a faith step before he unleashes the flow of abundance. Now faith is believing the word of God and acting upon it no matter how we feel, whether we're in a good mood or bad mood, it's us being obedient to Christ to what he calls us to. As we conclude this 21day prayer journey, I want to invite you to take a faith step and commit to the vision of your church. I want you to take these last three weeks that you prayed over, and I want you to hear the Lord's voice. I want you to respond out of obedience and see what types of abundant blessings Christ has for your life.

NOTE: You can view the videos any time online at www.HVPC.org/21days.