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Kingdom Business & Finances

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The 4 Basic Principles of Prosperity

Prosperity defined—Prosperity is more than just having more money. True prosperity is simply having and stewarding correctly the recources to complete the assignment from God for your life.

- 1. Listen to and follow through with every word God speaks to you.
- 2. Honor God, He's the never ending source that supplies.
- 3. Be generous and avoid strife at all cost.
- 4. Be compassionate towards others.

When we look at the life of Abraham, the father of faith we see a pattern that is established to support the 4 basic principals of prosperity. Why should we be concerned about Abraham and his life? Galatians 3:29 gives us the answer to this question. "And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, heirs according to the promise." It is important for us to see that because we are in Christ, everything God promised to Abraham, He also promised to us to inherit. Abraham went from promise to possession of the promise through these 4 basic principals. Inheritance is always released through maturity (Galatians 4:1).

God Delights In Your Prosperity

Psalm 35:27 Let those who favor my righteous cause and have pleasure in my uprightness shout for joy and be glad and say continually, Let the Lord be magnified, Who takes pleasure in the prosperity of His servant. (AMPC)

One of the first things we need to see is that God takes pleasure, (or in other words) He has fun prospering you, a son/daughter who serves! So we shout for joy! And we continually SAY, "the Lord be magnified in our lives." Why? Because He's excited about our well-being!

The Earth Has Increase To Yield To You

Psalm 67:5—7 Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee. ⁶ Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us. ⁷ God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him. (KJV)

When the people of God begin release praise to Him to something exciting begins to take place. As we engage in a lifestyle of praise something extravagant takes place. Our praise to God effects and influences the earth in such a way that it causes the earth to begin to release increase in our lives. The increase we need on earth is already here on the earth and true authentic praise activates the release. The blessing of the LORD is manifested in our lives so that all who see it will be in awe and wonder of Him. Are you ready to get your praise on?

1. Listen To And Follow Through

God will always call you out of what is familiar and into a place of greater advantage.

Genesis 12:1—4 Now [in Haran] the Lord said to Abram, Go for yourself [for your own advantage] away from your country, from your relatives and your father's house, to the land that I will show you.

2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you [with abundant increase of favors] and make your name famous and distinguished, and you will be a blessing [dispensing good to others].

3 And I will bless those who bless you [who confer prosperity or happiness upon you] and [a]curse him who curses or uses insolent language toward you; in you will all the families and kindred of the earth be blessed [and by you they will bless themselves].

4 So Abram departed, as the Lord had directed him; and Lot [his nephew] went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran. (AMPC)

2. Honor God

We honor God by acknowledging that He is the never ending source of supply.

Genesis 12:7 Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, "I will give this land to your offspring." So he built an altar there to the Lord who had appeared to him. (HCSB)

After Abram stepped out into obedience to the word of the LORD he built an altar. An altar is a place of both remembrance and sacrifice. It's also a place of honor and acknowledgement. Honor is a multiplier. Think about that, let it sink in. Honor is the multiplier. What you honor will multiply in your life. Exodus 20:12 says that our days on the earth are multiplied as we honor our father and mother. Honor is a multiplier! *Proverbs 3:9, 10 Honor the Lord with your capital and sufficiency [from righteous labors] and with the firstfruits of all your income;*

¹⁰ So shall your storage places be filled with plenty, and your vats shall be overflowing with new wine. Overflow, or multiplication is directly tied to our expression of honor. Over 136 verses in the Bible deal with the subject of honor; how we honor God and how we honor men. To honor is to express value, esteem, regard in a high manner, and it also means to keep your word. Deuteronomy 8:18 teaches us to remember the Lord, for it is He who gives us power to get wealth. The emphasis here is remember. He owns everything and He empowers us to get what He has prepared for us. For that, we honor Him.

When God called Abram, (and later changed his name to Abraham) He called him out of everything that was familiar to him. He asked Abram to leave his father's house, to go to an undisclosed location. How do you arrive at a place where God told you to go, when He is committed to not telling you where it's at? The key is in the text, "I will show you". When God says, "We are going somewhere" and He's not revealing where it's at, He's letting you know that He will be with you, guide you through the steps, and the entire process. Sometimes we want the GPS location, steps, and the details more than we want Him. In this place He is teaching us to know what it means to actually follow Him, trust Him, and know that the place He is taking us to is into a place of greater advantage. Does He have your "YES" even if you don't know where you'll end up? Abram heard the voice of God and stepped out immediately as the LORD directed. This is the first step in operating in the basic principals of prosperity. Listen to [His voice] and then follow through with actions.

Let's make a radical decision to listen and follow through every instruction we receive from the Lord. We can obey our way out of any adverse situation that we encounter. Isaiah 1:19 declares "If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good of the land." Our willingness and obedience are the keys to partaking of the good. Listen to and follow through.

Loaded With Benefits

Psalm 68:19 Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah. (KJV)

I am loaded every day with benefits! That is my confession. Even if I don't feel like, I still confess it. Why? Because He says I'm loaded. And since He says I'm loaded with benefits every day that's going to be my confession. When what we are saying comes into alignment with what He has already said, our thinking, our believing, our actions, and lifestyle start coming into alignment with heavens agenda. This is the starting place for proper alignment. Find out what He said, and start saying it. And refuse to speak anything that contradicts what He has said. The word "selah" means to pause, reflect, and praise. When we find a truth in the word of God that contradicts our current dilemma we must pause, reflect, and praise, knowing that when we come into alignment with His word, then His word paints a new picture for our expectations. Go ahead and confess it, "I AM LOADED WITH THE BENEFITS OF SERVING GOD".

3. Be Generous& Avoid Strife

Generosity is the antidote for strife. Strife is the blessing blocker, refuse to engage in it.

Genesis 13:5—9 Now Lot, who was traveling with Abram, also had flocks, herds, and tents. ⁶ But the land was unable to support them as long as they stayed together, for they had so many possessions that they could not stay together, ⁷ and there was (strife) quarreling between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. At that time the Canaanites and the Perizzites were living in the land.

⁸ Then Abram said to Lot, "Please, let's not have (strife) quarreling between you and me, or between your herdsmen and my herdsmen, since we are relatives.⁹ Isn't the whole land before you? Separate from me: if you go to the left, I will go to the right; if you go to the right, I will go to the left." (HCSB)

Courtesy and generosity are hallmark's of the Kingdom of God. Abram and Lot's servants began to engage in strife because of the magnitude of the blessing. When you start walking in the blessing of God you will also have marvelous opportunity to engage in strife. Why? Because the enemy knows that he cannot stop the blessing, but he can get you to walk out of the umbrella of blessing by taking part in strife.

2 Timothy 2:24—26 The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, skillful in teaching, patient when wronged, ²⁵ with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, ²⁶ and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will. (NASB)

Strife is a trap that will lead to captivity and influence towards the will of the enemy. Abram immediately responded to strife within his camp by giving Lot the advantage to choose the direction of his next move. Abram separated himself from strife. Why? Because Abram understood that once he engaged in strife that he would walk away from the blessing and become entangled in the trap of the enemy. 2 Timothy 2:24 teaches us that the servant of the Lord must not strife. Strife is counterproductive to those who partake. It will block the blessing every time.

Solomon the wealthiest man who ever lived prayed for wisdom, knowledge and understanding to steward well what God had entrusted. We must steward well our relationships, our resources, and our time. As we pray, we pray that we steward well everything God has given. This is the first step in functioning like a king, and as a king there's no room for strife.



Giving Goals

As you start your new business, job, or new year ask yourself, "What are my giving goals"?

A goal without a plan is just another wishful thought. Most of us want to be more generous and have the ability to give more to our church, ministries, and other notable causes. But, do we have a plan in place to get there?

At the beginning of the year I was setting down with a young man who wanted to start a new business. He ask the question, "What's the first thing I need to do"? As we talked through this I said, "The first thing to do in starting this new business is to set your monthly giving goals. How much money would you like to give to your church, or a ministry, or a notable cause"?

Job 22:27 You will pray to Him, and He will hear you, and you will fulfill your vows. How can God help you to fulfill your vows to Him if you haven't made a vow? For example if I want to make a vow to give \$1,000 a month to a cause or a ministry that is dear to my heart, the first thing I would do is pray about it. Once I get a confirmation that this is in alignment with God's will, its settled. I make a vow, or a goal to do it and believe that God will help me fulfill my vow.

I want to both challenge and encourage you to set monthly goals for the upcoming year. Pray and ask Holy Spirit to help you set the giving goals for each month. Then make a vow to the Lord, as He empowers you to fulfill it, follow through.

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4. Be Compassionate Towards Others

In Genesis 18:24-33, Abram negotiates with God on the number of righteous people needed to spare the two cities of Sodom & Gomorrah. When God revealed to Abram that these two cities would be destroyed Abram begins to intercede for them. This is so powerful! Abram prays and intercedes on behalf of a people who have a reputation for extreme wickedness. While many people would just say, "Go ahead God, they deserve it! Get'em good", Abram was praying that they would be spared. The negotiations landed on the number 10. In the Hebrew culture the minimum number needed to represent governmental authority and legislation is 10, representing the 10 dimensions of the realm of the Kingdom of Heaven. If God could find 10 righteous people between the 2 cities then He would spare them. We need to really let this sink in. If God would have spared the two cities for 10 righteous people under the old covenant how much more do we as the people of God, clothed in the righteousness of God because of the finished work of Jesus restrain destruction from the nations?

Abram's actions of interceding for a people because of his compassion towards them set him apart as a true friend of God. The test of our true compassion for others

Giving Goals continued...

comes when we choose to intercede for and help those who deserve it the least. It is easy to have compassion on people that we think deserve it. But it's another level of compassion to show kindness towards those who choose wickedness as a lifestyle.

Matthew9:36 When He saw the crowds, He felt compassion for them, because they were weary and worn out, like sheep without a shepherd. (HCSB)

Jesus was moved with compassion when he saw people. When we see others are we moved with compassion or does another emotion arise? Genuine compassion toward others is the 4th basic principle of prosperity and quite possibly the most difficult principle to apply. Compassion calls us to action, the action of letting Christ be seen in us and representing Him well to others.

We demonstrate the Kingdom of God in our actions in two ways. First, by the way we interact with our employees, customers, and vendors. Secondly, by letting others see Christ in us and in our business. Our compassion towards others reveals much about our own personal character. Compassion is the antidote for apathy and indifference. Compassion connects us to the heart of God and each other.

As we discussed and established giving goals for his new business a plan was put into action. This new business is HayeCo Custom Homes. Isaac and Jordan Hayes started this company by designing and building energy efficient houses with structural insulated panels. Their first house sold for over 20% above market value. The last 5 they have built have also sold for over 20% above market value. Currently they are building 12 houses, bidding on contracts for 5 and have 6 new contracts for 2021. Why? Could it be that the giving goals that were established in the foundation of their business opened the doors of heaven for overflow? I believe so. After interviewing Isaac & Jordan for this article I see that subconsciously, they are applying the 4 basic laws of prosperity that we have covered in this newsletter.

The 3 main takeaways I picked up on in their startup that anyone can apply in business.

- 1. The Power of Partnership—Find and work alongside someone who has credibility in the industry or field you desire to excel in. The scriptural foundation that Isaac had on this was "Proverbs 15:22 Plans fail when there is no counsel, but with many advisers they succeed." Teamwork and working with someone who has credibility is essential to establishing your own credibility as a new business. Contact your local Chamber of Commerce to get their insight on the business and build connections with people who will expand you.
- 2. The Law of Inertia—it doesn't matter who is behind the wheel when you're parked. However, when the movement begins be ready to make continual adjustments. Transitioning from the theory of the business model to executing it requires adjustments. Be flexible in the transition. There will be many adjustments to be made as you advance.
- 3. Go After Your Passion—If you're in the business because you have a passion for it you're more likely to succeed than just trying to make money.

