



NORTHLANDS CHURCH

## **Meditation on God's desire to Provide**

*If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.*

**James 1:5**

*And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.*

**2 Corinthians 9:8**

*20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.*

**Ephesians 3:20-21**

*31 So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*

**Matthew 6:31-33**

*14 Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. 15 Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; 16 for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need. 17 Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account. 18 I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. 19 And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.*

**Philippians 4:14-19**



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1	<b>DRINKING WATER FIXED</b> —Bitter waters of Marah sweetened (Exodus 15:23-25)
2	<b>MANNA</b> sent daily to feed the Israelites, except on the Sabbath (Exodus 16:14-35)
3	<b>WATER</b> from the rock at Rephidim (Exodus 17:5-7)
4	<b>WATER PROVIDED IN DESERT</b> —from the rock, after smitten twice by Moses, in the desert of Zin (Numbers 20:7-11)
5	<b>BRASS SERPENT</b> on a pole in the desert of Zin—“if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.” (Numbers 21:8-9)
6	<b>WATER</b> from a hollow place “that is in Lehi” (Judges 15:19)
7	<b>WIDOW’S MEAL AND OIL</b> —a widow of Zarephath’s meal and oil increased (1 Kings 17:14-16)
8	<b>RESURRECTION</b> —widow’s son raised from the dead (1 Kings 17:17-24)
9	<b>RAIN</b> —in clear response to prophet Elijah’s prayers (1 Kings 18:41-45)
10	<b>RAVENS DELIVER FOOD</b> —prophet Elijah fed by ravens (1 Kings 17-18)
11	<b>WATER PROVIDED</b> for Jehoshaphat and his allied army (2 Kings 3:16-20)—“Ye shall not see wind, neither shall ye see rain; yet that valley shall be filled with water, that ye may drink, both ye, and your cattle, and your beasts.”
12	<b>WIDOW’S OIL MULTIPLIED</b> (2 Kings 4:2-7)
13	<b>POISON REVERSED</b> —The deadly pottage cured with meal at Gilgal (2 Kings 4:38-41)
14	<b>HUNDRED MEN FED</b> with 20 barley loaves and ears of corn at Gilgal (2 Kings 4:42-44)
15	<b>IRON AXE-HEAD MADE TO SWIM</b> in the river Jordan (2 Kings 6:5-7)
16	<b>MONEY</b> —needed tax/tribute money miraculously provided in a randomly caught fish’s mouth, as promised by Jesus Christ (Matt 17:24-27)
17	<b>FISH</b> —the miraculous draught of fishes (Luke 5:4-11)
18	<b>WATER TURNED TO WINE</b> (John 2:1-11)
19	<b>LOAVES AND FISHES</b> —4,000 fed from 7 loaves and a few little fishes (Matt 15:32; Mark 8:1)
20	<b>FOOD</b> —Jesus feeds 5,000 “in a desert place” (Matt 14:15; Mark 6:30; Luke 9:10; John 6:1-14)
21	<b>TONGUES</b> —miraculous ability to SPEAK AND/OR UNDERSTAND A FOREIGN LANGUAGE (tongue) previously unknown to the speaker

## **TRY THIS AT HOME** **Remedies for Lack**

17 September 2017 | Greg Haswell

There nothing quite so heavy,  
as the weight of constant lack  
It sucks away their souls  
lays burden on their back

It chips away their focus  
it brings them to despair  
so that all of life's opportunities  
appear to them as cares

it lies "God does not care for you  
or listen to your prayers  
there is nothing you can do  
with the remainder of your years"

But we know our God is faithful  
we know His word is true  
He will not ever forsake us  
and He always will come through

So we cast away that blackness  
throw off the deadening cloud  
and come to your generous Father  
Who sees you in the crowd

and He has more abundance  
than anyone can see  
His stores are full of goodness  
to which Jesus is the key

He'll listen to your hearts cry  
He'll turn His ears to you  
He cannot be unfaithful  
no matter what you do

So ask in Jesus name  
bring supplication to His door  
and He will see you fed  
with His kindness evermore

## **The causes of lack** **Stinginess**

The stingy are eager to get rich and are unaware that poverty awaits them.

PROVERBS 28:22

## The remedy

### Give

38 Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

LUKE 6:38

6 Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 7 Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-14

all that you need, you will abound in every good work. 9 As it is written: "They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever." 10 Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-14

11 You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. 12 This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. 13 Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves,

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-14

others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. 14 And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-14

## **The causes of lack Laziness**

9 How long will you lie there, you sluggard? When will you get up from your sleep? 10 A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest— 11 and poverty will come on you like a thief and scarcity like an armed man.

PROVERBS 6:9-11, PROVERBS 24:33-34

A sluggard buries his hand in the dish; he will not even bring it back to his mouth!

Sluggards do not plow in season; so at harvest time they look but find nothing.

PROVERBS 19:24, PROVERBS 20:4

**The remedy**  
**Work diligently**

All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty.

A sluggard's appetite is never filled, but the desires of the diligent are fully satisfied.

PROVERBS 14:23, PROVERBS 13:4

## The causes of lack Doubt

5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. 6 But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. 7 That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. 8 Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

JAMES 1:5-7

## The remedy When you pray "Believe"

21 Peter remembered and said to Jesus, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree you cursed has withered!" 22 "Have faith in God," Jesus answered. 23 "Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them.

MARK 11:20-24

24 Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

21 Jesus replied, "Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not doubt, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and it will be done. 22 If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."

MARK 11:24, MATTHEW 21:21

## The causes of lack Wrong trust or focus

5 This is what the Lord says: "Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who draws strength from mere flesh and whose heart turns away from the Lord. 6 That person will be like a bush in the wastelands; they will not see prosperity when it comes. They will dwell in the parched places of the desert, in a salt land where no one lives.

JEREMIAH 17:5-6

11 Has a nation ever changed its gods? (Yet they are not gods at all.) But my people have exchanged their glorious God for worthless idols. 12 Be appalled at this, you heavens, and shudder with great horror," declares the Lord. 13 "My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns,

JEREMIAH 2:11-13



1 What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you?  
2 You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God.

JAMES 4:1-4

3 When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures. 4 You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God?

JAMES 4:1-4

**The remedy**  
**Ask the Lord**

15 The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

PSALM 145:15-16

5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

JAMES 1:5

1 The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures,

PSALM 23:1-2

## Meditation Scriptures

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