BILLY & BECKY EPPERHAT

# WALKING IN GOD'S FAVOR

14 DAY DEVOTIONAL



## **DEDICATION**

"'May the Lord bless you and protect you.

May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord show you his favor and give you his peace.'"

Numbers 6:24-26

## DAY 1:

# DAY 1: GOD'S FAVOR IS FOR YOU

Verses for Reflection: Psalm 5:12, Ephesians 2:8-9, 2 Corinthians 9:8 od's favor is for you. As we journey through a week of walking in God's favor, my prayer is that you would come to a deeper recognition of the grace, love, and purpose that God wants to bring to every area of your life. As Psalm 5:12 says, "Surely, Lord, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield."

You are surrounded by the favor of God! He's got you covered on all sides. But what exactly is favor, and how do we access it? God's favor accomplishes what human strength cannot, and it opens doors that no man or woman can open. In other words, favor is the grace of God. In fact, the Bible often uses the words favor and grace interchangeably. Let's take a look at two verses:

- 2 Corinthians 9:8 says, "And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work."
- Luke 1:30 says, "And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God."

In both instances (as well as 150+ other times in the New Testament) the word charis is used. It translates to that which affords joy, pleasure, delight, sweetness, charm, loveliness; good will, loving-kindness, and favor. So, favor is an inextricable part of God's grace. You can't have one without the other.

Grace is the unmerited, or undeserved, favor of God. As Ephesians 2:8-9 says, "For by grace you

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have been saved

through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."

You can't earn favor, but you can ignore it. Like any gift, you can choose to open it or not. Or, perhaps you resemble a kid halfway into January. On Christmas Day, you enthusiastically received your new gifts and played with them all week long. However, as time trickled on, the gifts found their way under your bed, collecting dust.

So, this week is all about adopting a lifestyle where we unwrap the favor of God each and every day. If that sounds like a good deal to you, pray this prayer:

God, thank you for the free gift of your favor and grace that I do not deserve. Please show me where I am trying to accomplish things in my own strength and teach me how to receive your favor. Your Word says that favor surrounds the righteous like a shield, so strengthen me to walk in righteousness.

# PRAY PSALM 139:23-24:

"Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life."

Amen.

## DAY 2:

# FAVOR FORMS THE PATH

Verses for Reflection: Psalm 16:5-6, John 10:7-18, Ecclesiastes 3:1 How often do you pray for direction? We all have an internal compass that wants to align with God's plan, but our desires often steer us off course. You can't earn God's favor, but you can outpace God's grace. How? By trying to lead the way and forge your own path.

David was a shepherd who knew what it was like to be a sheep. The Bible describes him as a man after God's own heart. He was an incredible leader who knew how to follow God with a sheep-like dependency and trust.

He praised, "Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup; You make my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance." (Psalm 16:5-6)

David was grateful for the divine limitations that God put around his life. He understood that the limits protected his inheritance. In today's day and age, this is counter-cultural. We think that we have to build more and acquire faster in order to leave a legacy. Rather than celebrating the boundary lines, we begrudge them.

As Ecclesiastes 3:1 says, there is a time and a season for everything. God wraps a certain measure of favor around each season for your good. For instance, you will have a different measure of ability, insight, and energy in your 30s than in your 50s. Limitations are proof of God's grace acting in your life. They keep you on the path of His good, pleasing, and perfect will. They help you accomplish God's will for your life each season and enable you to move on to the next assignment in His timing.

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So, how do you tell when you've gone outside of the grace in a given season? You'll feel an evident lack of peace and presence. It's the exhaustion that comes from doing things in your own strength rather than relying on the Lord. That's why Isaiah 40:31 says "those who trust in the Lord will find new strength." God's grace is sufficient for you. As you grow in grace, you will learn how to wait for doors to open rather than kicking them down by your own might.

# **ASK YOURSELF:**

What boundary lines has God given me in this season?

Are there any areas where I feel a lack of peace and presence?

Am I trying to knock down a door in my own strength that God wants to open through His favor?

## DAY 3:

# FAVOR FOLLOWS SURRENDER

Verses for Reflection: Matthew 6:25-34, Malachi 3:10, Esther 4:12-17 God won't give you a blessing your character can't handle. Yesterday, you took time to recognize and submit to the boundaries God has placed in your current season. That probably required you to let go of some things. Though letting go is challenging, here's some good news: when you create the space, God will fill it. Favor follows surrender.

Jesus describes this Kingdom principle in Matthew 6:33. He addresses the human tendency to worry about food, clothing, and material provision. Jesus promises, "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

God won't give you a blessing your character can't handle. Favor is attracted to your life when you pursue Kingdom priorities. As soon as we pursue our plans and purposes, our motives get off. If we pursue money, we become greedy. If we pursue influence, we become prideful. If we pursue opportunities, we become controlling. However, if we pursue the Kingdom of God, everything will be added. It's the principle of giving and receiving. When we give our time, talents, and treasure to further the Kingdom of Heaven in the earth, we receive God's favor.

Malachi 3:10 (NKJV) says,

"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse,
That there may be food in My house,
And try Me now in this,"
Says the Lord of hosts,
will not open for you the windows of he

"If I will not open for you the windows of heaven
And pour out for you such blessing
That there will not be room enough to receive

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When we release what's in our hands, God releases what's in His hands. There will not be enough room to receive the abundance of favor that God has for your life! However, our pursuit cannot be personal prosperity. Rather, our desire to give should come from a desire to build God's house, the Church. That's where the real purpose is.

Before Esther courageously rescues the Jewish people, her uncle, Mordecai, asks her, "who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" (Esther 4:14). The story goes on to reveal that Esther was willing to fulfill her assignment to the point of death. She surrendered her life for her people, and God's favor followed. Esther saved the Jews, and her family was honored in the palace.

The same question exists for you today, too. Who knows whether you have come to the Kingdom for such a time as this? The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand, and big things will start to happen when you dedicate your life to God's plans. When you stand up like Esther did and say, "I'm willing to fulfill my assignment," suddenly, God will take you from nothing and promote you to places of power and influence. Resources will come into your life because your motivation is to see the Kingdom of God expanded in the earth.

# PRAY:

Lord, please help me surrender to your plans and purposes. I want my heart's desire to be for your Kingdom. I pray that your favor will rest upon my life so I can give abundantly to others.

Like Esther, I am willing to fulfill my assignment. I know that you have put me on earth at this time and in this context for a specific purpose. Your Kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven.

Amen

## DAY 4:

# FAVOR TAKES FAITH AND PATIENCE

Verses for Reflection: Hebrews 6:12, James 1:4

What is faith, exactly? For starters, faith requires trusting the process, even when it doesn't look like things are going the way you would hope. Golf is a great analogy. In my opinion, golf requires more patience than any other sport. A good golfer pauses before they take a swing. They assess the wind, the terrain, and the distance from the hole. In many cases, they must aim away from the hole to sink a putt. I've found that my walk with God often takes a similar course. On several occasions, God has led me to places where I couldn't understand how they fit into His will for my life.

Being faithful can feel like putting the ball away from the hole. You may wonder why you're not closer to where you believe God's favor should take you. The truth is, walking in God's favor requires a great deal of faith and patience.

What is faith, exactly? Hebrews 11:1 defines faith as "confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." God will bless you with favor even when you don't see evidence of it. Paul continued to use this concept to challenge people to become mature in their faith. Hebrews 6:12 says, "We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised." Before we can inherit God's promises, blessings, and favor, we need to fight against the discouragement that can cause us to be lazy, sluggish, and weary in our faith.

If your goal is to become a published author, but your job is to sweep floors, you may question if you missed out on God's favor. However, if you're faithful in sweeping those floors while writing unpublished manuscripts, you'll grow in discipline, patience, and stewardship. Writing in unseen places can be your act of faith and preparation.

Most people want to jump straight into blessings. But, we often have to undergo an uncomfortable process that stretches our faith before we start to see God's favor in our lives. Even though we can't earn God's favor, faith is the foundation of how we prepare to receive it. Luke 16:10 says, "If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones." Through faith and patience, you can position yourself to grow in God's divine favor. While faith is essential, we can't forget that other key word – patience.

James 1:4 (NKJV) says,
"But let patience have its perfect work,
that you may be perfect and complete,
lacking nothing."

God knows our needs and does not want us to live in lack. Faith that God wants you to experience His divine favor will give you the fortitude for patience. Where are some areas where you feel stretched in your faith? Take some time to reflect and pray for patience as you believe for God's favor to cover you.

# PRAY:

Lord, thank You for Your faithfulness. Please reveal the areas of my life where I'm growing frustrated due to unmet expectations. I want to allow patience to have its perfect work and mature in these areas of my life. I know that you have plans to prosper me and not to harm me. Grant me peace as I choose to believe in your goodness in this season of my life. In Jesus' name,

Amen.

DAY 5:

# FAVOR IS RELEASED THROUGH DIVINE CONNECTIONS AND KAIROS MOMENTS

Verses for Reflection: Psalm 16:4, Psalm 139:16

What if I told you there was a treasure chest with your name on it? Let's pretend you have that treasure chest, and you open it up. Inside are people you've never met and experiences you've never had. The truth is, this treasure chest exists, full of kairos moments and divine appointments that God has put in our life. Our job is to be expectant for the people and opportunities God wants to show us each day!

Have you ever met the right person at the perfect time? Perhaps a good friend, spouse, career connection, or church leader comes to mind. God accomplishes most of what He wants to do in your life through relationships. I refer to these people as divine connections, and they often come into your life at appointed times, or kairos moments.

# Isaiah 43:4-6 says (NIV),

"Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west. I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' and to the south, 'Do not hold them back.' Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth."

This revelation from the prophet Isaiah still rings true for us today. God has wonderful relationships from the east, west, north, and south. God's favor aligns people and opportunities that propel the Body of Christ to move forward in His will. We just have to be present to receive them.

Sometimes disappointments keep us from opening our treasure chest. We can lose faith and let circumstances tell our story. Thankfully, we have another option. We can listen to the Spirit of Truth and move forward.

# Here's what John 16:13 says:

"But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come."

God has plans to send the right people and opportunities into your life. However, to recognize them, you must first believe they're coming. Would you recognize a divine connection if they crossed your path today? Let's pray for our hearts to be sensitive to the move of God in our lives.

# PRAY:

Lord, thank You for the people and opportunities you're bringing into my life. I want to experience more kairos moments. Please help me to be more sensitive to the move of the Holy Spirit. Remind me that You are present in both the big and small moments. I want to recognize the treasure chests you prepare for me and have the faith to open them. In Jesus' name,

Amen.

DAY 6:

# FAVOR FILLS A SPIRIT OF EXPECTATION

Verses for Reflection: 2 Kings 3-4, Proverbs 13:12 As people of faith, it is important to be aware of our expectations. Expectation is not the same thing as entitlement. Holy expectations align with the promises in God's Word. It's closely tied to faith. One definition of expectation is "a strong belief that something will happen in the future.

When we create a space and have the expectation that God will fill it, He does. One of my favorite stories about this principle is found in 2 Kings 3. To give you some context, the nation of Moab had just rebelled against Israel. So King Joram of Israel and King Jehoshaphat of Judah joined forces to go into battle. However, after traveling for seven days in the wilderness, there was no water for the men or the animals. In desperation, they call for the prophet Elisha who was traveling with them.

Elisha asks for a harp player, presumably so He can worship and ask the Lord what He thinks about the situation. As the harp player does their thing, Elijah begins to prophesy. As He looks into the dry, desolate valley, this is what He says:

"Thus says the Lord: 'Make this valley full of ditches.' For thus says the Lord: 'You shall not see wind, nor shall you see rain; yet that valley shall be filled with water, so that you, your cattle, and your animals may drink.' And this is a simple matter in the sight of the Lord; He will also deliver the Moabites into your hand. Also you shall attack every fortified city and every choice city, and shall cut down every good tree, and stop up every spring of water, and ruin every good piece of land with stones." (2 Kings 3:16-19, NKJV)

Did you catch that? There wouldn't be any natural phenomena, like rain or storms, that would cause the ditches to fill. Elisha prophesied that water would be provided by the Lord's power alone. What seems impossible to us is simple in the sight of the Lord.

However, in order to receive the water, the people had to take a step of faith. God told them to dig the ditches that would hold the water. In other words, God wanted to stir up a spirit of expectation in the people.

A spirit of expectation entails believing something will happen in your life before you see it. That belief should spur you to offer something for the favor of God to connect with. In this case, the favor of God connected with their act of faith. His favor filled the ditches

"Now it happened in the morning, when the grain offering was offered, that suddenly water came by way of Edom, and the land was filled with water." (2 Kings 3:20, NKJV)

God did everything He promised. The people's efforts were not in vain. Water filled every ditch! Not only did the people have fresh water for themselves and their livestock, but the water also equipped them to defeat the Moabites in battle. Holy expectations will help your faith grow, too.

# PRAY:

God, thank you for your faithfulness to fill the spaces I surrender to you. You are the God of miracles—help me raise my expectations for what you want to accomplish in the world and how you want to use me in your plan. Please help me identify the vessels you want to supernaturally fill in my life.

- Pause in His Presence -

I will gather them in faith that your favor is for me.

DAY 7:

# FAVOR PREPARES YOUR LAND

Verses for Reflection: Exodus 23:20-23, Deuteronomy 6:10-11, Joshua 24:13, Psalms 105 God's favor goes before you. Have you ever prepared a surprise party for someone? The weeks before the event are full of preparations. There are invitations to be sent, reservations to be made, and cake to be ordered. Soon enough, the day of the party comes, and guests filter into the room. As the time approaches for the subject of honor to arrive, voices hush, lights dim, and anticipation builds. At the opportune moment, the door opens, and everyone yells, "Surprise!"

The birthday boy or girl had no idea someone was working behind the scenes to prepare a space for them. God's favor works similarly in our lives. He constantly orchestrates people, places, and opportunities for our future that we cannot see in the present. This is not just for our own benefit. Rather, it is to work all things together for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purpose. (See Romans 8:28.)

When God leads you to possess something, He will dispossess it beforehand and/or give you the strength to dispossess it yourself. A major example of this in the Bible is when God gave the Israelites the Promised Land

#### In Exodus 23:23, God says,

"For My Angel will go before you and bring you in to the Amorites and Hittites and the Perizzites and the Canaanites and the Hivites and the Jebusites; and I will cut them off." afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth."

# Joshua 24:13 puts it this way:

"I have given you a land for which you did not labor, and citieswhich you did not build, and you dwell in them; you eat of the vineyards and olive groves which you did not plant."

God's favor goes before you. It will prepare the places where He wants you to minister and have influence. Learn to look for the areas God is dispossessing in your life. Pray for discernment about where He is leading. Following is the key to walking in God's grace and favor. The alternative is plowing through life in your own strength, and trust me -- it's exhausting.

So, what is the modern-day Promised Land? It's no longer relegated to a specific geographic location like Canaan. The Kingdom of God spreads throughout the whole earth. Promised Lands are the points of convergence where multiple streams in our lives come together for the glory of God. You begin to see how the gifts, experiences, and relationships God has graced you with can have a greater Kingdom impact. To enter your land, you'll need the wisdom from every other day you've spent diving into this devotional

First, you must be confident that God's favor is for you. From that foundation, you can surrender and have patience because you trust Him to lead in each season. You know that favor is forming your path. Along the way, you thoughtfully consider how God might want you to steward various relationships and opportunities. Expectation builds as you approach each new horizon of your promised land, for you

know that God is dispossessing new territory for you to possess.

# **ASK YOURSELF:**

- What have I learned about walking in God's favor over the past week?
- God's favor goes before me. Do I believe this? If so, what does it mean to me?
- Has God dispossessed areas that He's inviting me to faithfully possess? What's holding me back?

# DAY 8:

# **FAVOR IS FOR NOW**

Verses for Reflection: Isaiah 61:1-2, Luke 4:18-21 As we start week two on this journey together, I want to remind you of the unique time we are living in. God picked you to be alive during this particular kairos moment for a reason. It is a time when the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand (Mark 1:15), and God's favor is here.

When Jesus read from the temple, He chose a scroll with **Isaiah 61:1-2** on it. The scripture says,

"The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is upon me, for the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to comfort the brokenhearted and to proclaim that captives will be released and prisoners will be freed.

He has sent me to tell those who mourn that the time of the Lord's favor has come, and with it, the day of God's anger against their enemies"

Then, Jesus says, "This scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." (Luke 4:21)

Take a moment to consider all the promises in this verse and their implications for us today. As we follow Jesus, we are charged with comforting the broken, releasing the captives, and bringing good news to the poor (as my friend Dan Dyer says, that news is they don't have to be poor anymore!) God has given us favor to accomplish all of these things and more, all because Jesus paved the way. As we walk in God's favor, it's not just for us. God's favor is the key to transforming individuals, nations, and generations!

# PRAY:

God, I am so grateful for your favor, and I want to partner with you to care for the poor, brokenhearted, captives, and prisoners. Open my eyes to opportunities to share your favor with those who need it.

Amen.

DAY 9:

# **FAVOR IS ABUNDANT**

Verse for Reflection: Psalm 84:11, 2 Corinthians 9:8 When God gives, He gives abundantly. Psalm 84:11 (ESV) declares, "For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor. No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly."

Consider the sun. It does more than just shine—it sustains life, provides warmth, and shines on every corner of the globe. In the same way, God's presence reaches every part of creation with life and light. But He is also our shield, protecting us from harm, guarding us from dangers seen and unseen.

God's goodness doesn't stop with protection and sustenance. He offers us favor and honor as well! The New Living Translation describes this as "grace and glory." God helps us in our weakness and supplies the strength and support we need to stand tall. He doesn't just meet our needs—He lifts us to places of honor and significance in His kingdom.

Are you beginning to see how generous God is?

However, His abundant favor comes with an invitation to partnership. The promise of favor, protection, and honor is connected to: our walk with Him. Remember, Psalm 84:11 says that "no good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly."

The word "walk" in Hebrew, hālak, means more than just physical movement. It refers to our way of life—our daily choices, attitudes, and actions. How you halak before God determines the direction of your life, both literally and spiritually. To walk uprightly means to live in a way that aligns with God's

will, trusting Him fully, and honoring Him in all we do.

When we choose to walk uprightly, God's favor overflows into every area of our life.

2 Corinthians 9:8 (AMP) reflects this well: "And God is able to make all grace [every favor and earthly blessing] come in abundance to you, so that you may always [under all circumstances, regardless of the need] have complete sufficiency in everything." God's favor is not limited by our circumstances or needs—it is abundant, overflowing into every situation, providing exactly what we need.

Today, reflect on your walk with God. Are you trusting Him fully and aligning your life with His ways? As you walk uprightly before Him, His favor, grace, and blessings will flow abundantly into your life, making you sufficient in every situation. God's favor is always greater than our need.

#### PRAY:

God, thank you for supplying my every need! I trust you to provide for mehelp me increase my faith and walk with you today.

Amen.

**DAY 10:** 

#### FAVOR IS ATTRACTED TO PREPARATION

Verses for Reflection: Jeremiah 52:31-34

Jehoiachin became king of Judah at just eighteen years old, an intimidating responsibility for someone so young. 2 Kings 24:9 notes that he "did evil in the sight of the Lord" which makes sense—it would have been dangerous to carry that much power at that age! After only three months of reigning, the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar captured Jerusalem and took Jehoiachin as prisoner.

Jehoiachin spent 37 years in captivity when Babylon destroyed Judah. Yet, something incredible happened after those years of hardship. Nebuchadnezzar's successor released Jehoiachin from prison AND showered him with extravagant blessings. As described in **Jeremiah 52:31-34 (AMP)**, the new king "spoke kindly to him" and provided him a place of honor, a daily allowance, and the privilege of dining at the king's table for the rest of his life.

This dramatic change in Jehoiachin's circumstances leads to an important question: Why did Jehoiachin, of all people, receive such favor? What made him stand out? After seeking God and diving deeper into the meaning of Jehoiachin's name, the answer began to unfold. According to Hitchcock's Bible Names Dictionary, Jehoiachin's name means "preparation." In biblical times, names often carried prophetic significance, and this name suggests that during his long years in captivity, Jehoiachin prepared. He transformed from someone who did evil into a man who could be trusted!

Jehoiachin didn't waste his time in prison—he used it for growth. Whether he was teaching, praying, or reflecting on his role, Jehoiachin was in a season of preparation. God watched as he matured in that hidden place. At the right time, God reached down to elevate him and bestowed favor favor beyond what he could have imagined.

This story teaches us that favor doesn't just happen by chance—it is often attracted to those who prepare faithfully, even in difficult seasons. Jehoiachin's transformation from a captive to a king reminds us that God can use every circumstance, no matter how bleak, to set the stage for His blessings.

Are you in a season of waiting or difficulty? Don't lose heart. Like Jehoiachin, use this time to prepare and trust that God sees your faithfulness. When the timing is right, God can turn your situation around and bless you beyond your expectations. Favor follows those who keep believing and preparing for God's best.

#### **ASK YOURSELF:**

How can I prepare today for what God wants to do tomorrow? Where do I need to shift my perspective from difficulty to opportunity? **DAY 11:** 

## FAVOR COMES WHEN YOU LET GO

Verses for Reflection: 2 Kings 4:1-7

What if the key to your breakthrough lies not in what you have, but in what you're willing to release?

A recently widowed woman found herself in a desperate situation. She was in so much debt that creditors were threatening to enslave her sons. So, she turned to the prophet Elisha. Instead of simply handing her money, Elisha offered her a divine strategy:

"Go outside, borrow vessels from all your neighbors, empty vessels and not too few. Then go in and shut the door behind yourself and your sons and pour into all these vessels. And when one is full, set it aside." (2 Kings 4:3-4, ESV)

Obeying his instructions, the widow gathered empty vessels from her neighbors. As she poured her small supply of oil into them, a miracle happened! The oil kept flowing until every vessel was full. When she asked for another vessel, her son replied, "There is not another." At that moment, the oil stopped flowing. Elisha told her to sell the oil, pay her debts, and live on what remained.

Can you imagine the emotions the widow must have felt? First and foremost, I bet she felt an intense wave of gratitude and relief. However, I'm sure a part of her wished she had gathered more vessels. The widow had a degree of expectation because she reached out and listened to Elisha. However, this story shows us there is no limit when it comes to holy expectations. In the Bible, oil represents the Holy Spirit.

So, the widow's testimony reveals a powerful truth about God's favor: The Holy Spirit will fill every single vessel you provide until it overflows.

To experience this ongoing filling, we must learn to let go. Living in a state of surrender opens us to God's perfect plan for every vessel we have. When we fill our schedules in our own strength, we can suffocate what the Spirit wants to do in our lives. We can exchange miraculous multiplication for mundane management.

So, living with a spirit of expectation will require you to relinquish control. The widow unwillingly relinquished control—her husband died, and she was in a state of desperation. There wasn't much for her to control because she didn't have much.

Many times, we we wait until we are already depleted before we ask God to fill us. Then, we regain just enough strength for ourselves and (maybe) our families. But what would happen if we learned how to relinquish control willingly? Daily surrender would transform us into people who continually walk in God's favor. Generosity would flourish, and we would lavish blessings onto others because we know that we have more than enough.

#### ASK YOURSELF:

What vessels am I surrendering, and which vessels am I holding too closely to the vest?

**DAY 12:** 

# FAVOR IS THERE WHEN YOU TURN ASIDE AND LOOK

Verses for Reflection: Exodus 3 and 4

Moses is one of the most revered figures in the Bible, but his journey began far from glory. Before God got to him, he was on the backside of the desert after committing murder. As he tended to his father-in-law Jethro's flock in Midian—a place whose name means "strife"—Moses experienced a life-changing moment.

One day, the familiar, hot landscape transformed before his eyes:

"And the Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. Then Moses said, 'I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn.'" (Exodus 3:2-3 NKJV)

In the desert, it wasn't unusual for a bush to catch fire; what astonished Moses was that this bush didn't burn into a pile of ash. His decision to take notice of this difference changed the course of his life.

When the Lord saw that Moses turned aside to look, He called out, "Moses, Moses!" To which Moses replied, "Here I am." God instructed him to remove his sandals because he was standing on holy ground.

It wasn't until Moses chose to turn and look that he received God's revelation. The Spirit of God presents opportunities for us to partner with Him daily. Little fires invite us to pause and consider what God is doing around us. The Holy Spirit gently asks, "Will you set aside your to-do list and notice My activity today?"

If I'm honest, there are days when I resist paying attention to God. Turning aside to look can feel intimidating—who knows what God might require? It could involve surrendering our plans or stepping beyond our comfort zones to serve others.

Consider what God asked of Moses as a reward for his willingness to listen:

"Look! The cry of the people of Israel has reached me, and I have seen how harshly the Egyptians abuse them. Now go, for I am sending you to Pharaoh. You must lead my people Israel out of Egypt." - Exodus 3:9-11 NLT

Can you imagine how caught off guard Moses must have felt? He viewed himself as a fugitive and murderer destined for the wilderness. Exodus 4:10 tells us that Moses struggled with his speech and doubted his leadership abilities. Yet, despite his fears, he turned aside to look and chose obedience. When Moses gave his "yes" to God, grace covered him for the task ahead. Miracles unfolded—enemies were defeated, seas were parted, and an entire nation was freed.

Do you desire to experience the supernatural and live out of who God created you to be? If so, you must be willing to divert your gaze and direction daily. That requires a commitment to slow down, pause, and turn aside to witness God's favor in your path. Look for those burning bushes in your life—they just might lead to the extraordinary!

#### PRAY:

God, help me notice you in my work and daily activities. I want to be interrupted by your fire—I know the plans you have for me are much greater than anything I could determine on my own!

Amen.

**DAY 13:** 

## FAVOR FOLLOWS GENEROSITY

Verses for reflection: Luke 6:38, Malachi 3:10

When you give, you will receive. Though we may not always receive in the way we want or the timing we want, giving and receiving is a spiritual principle you can take to the bank. Check this out:

- As you give, it will be given unto you. (Luke 6:38)
- Whatever you sow, you will reap. (Galatians 6:7)
- The more you give, the more you will receive. (2 Corinthians 9:6)

God is faithful, and He always honors our faithfulness. When you give, God multiplies your initial investment. Let's look at Luke 6:38 (NKJV) in its fullness:

"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."

God takes your initial measure of generosity and shakes it up until it fizzes over like a can of coke! You can't out give God. God is a really creative giver, too. He will give you creative ideas for how to bless other people, and He will give back to you in creative ways.

We discussed Malachi 3:10 (NKJV) in day 3 of this devotional, and now we are going to explore it from a different angle:

"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse,

That there may be food in My house,
And try Me now in this,"
Says the Lord of hosts,
"If I will not open for you the windows of heaven
And pour out for you such blessing
That there will not be room enough to receive it."

As we align ourselves with God through tithing, the windows of heaven open. If you think about the windows in your house, those windows allow you to see through the wall and to the outside. Often, our perspective can get clouded and we can't look through the window to see divine connections, kairos moments, or the wealth building opportunities God has for us.

As we partner with God through our giving, the windows of heaven, revelation, insight, and revelation, the windows in our life begin to open. Many people never walk in the blessing that God has for them and the favor of God that surrounds them like a shield because they're not partnering with God. When you partner with God, the windows open and God helps you recognize what's coming to your life.

# ASK YOURSELF: Where could God be inviting me to give more of my time, talent, and treasure?

**DAY 14:** 

## FAVOR COMES IN YOUR LAND

Verses for reflection: Psalm 16 & Joshua 5:9-12

What do you long for? Deep down, there are dreams and desires God has placed in your heart and promises He may have given you long ago. Perhaps, like the Israelites in the desert, you are waiting for the fulfillment of those promises and wandering through a season of uncertainty. God promised the Israelites a land flowing with milk and honey, and after years of slavery and wilderness, He led them to that land. All they had to do was obey and occupy it.

In Psalm 16:5-6, King David (who ruled in the Promised Land) wrote:

"Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup; you make my lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance."

David knew God would protect him and was grateful for his inheritance—both the land of Canaan and the spiritual blessings that came from following God. Similarly, we have an earthly and spiritual inheritance. While we look forward to our ultimate inheritance in heaven, God has prepared a "land" for us here and now. Within the boundaries of your life, there are people you are meant to meet, work you are destined to do, and places God has set for you to reach. Your purpose is to make this earthly kingdom reflect God's heavenly one and share His goodness with the world.

God's favor is in the land He has for you. There comes a time when wilderness seasons end and the Promised Land begins. In the Promised Land, there is favor. However, it doesn't come in the form of manna

falling from heaven—it comes right from the stewardship of your land. Check this out—the night before the Israelites crossed into Canaan, they camped and celebrated Passover. Joshua 5:11-12 says,

"

Right away, the day after the Passover, they started eating the produce of that country, unraised bread and roasted grain. And then no more manna; the manna stopped. As soon as they started eating food grown in the land, there was no more manna for the People of Israel. That year they ate from the crops of Canaan."

Did you catch that? The manna stopped and never returned! Favor comes when you quit looking to the sky for God's provision and put your hand to the plow instead.

If you feel like you have been wandering and uncertain of God's will, remember this: the same God who led the Israelites into their Promised Land has a place for you too. Your season of wandering will end, and as you till the "land" God has prepared, He will reveal His favor. Trust in His timing, work faithfully, and watch as your land brings forth fruit!

#### **ASK YOURSELF:**

What "land" has God entrusted me to steward? In what ways am I still asking for manna, and in where can I work to grow and harvest the produce of the land?

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