"Going Deeper" By McKade Marshall

God desires to know you deeply and for you to know Him in an intimate way. Your relationship with God was never meant to be a surface level acknowledgment that He exists, a relationship where you talk to Him from time to time or only when you need something. On the contrary, God desires to reside in the core of your being! David describes this personal and deeply affectionate communion with God in Psalm 42:7 (NASB), saying, "Deep calls to deep at the sound of Your waterfalls; all Your breakers and Your waves have rolled over me." In other words, the deep things in God's heart are calling out to the deep things in your heart. This intimate communion with God is what David continually sought after, and the Scriptures tell us David was a man after God's own heart (Acts 13:22).

Maybe today you would not describe yourself as a person quite like David. You don't feel like God's chosen one like David was. The good news is, regardless of how you may feel, you are chosen by God and the heart of God is already in you! <u>The moment you gave your life to Christ your heart became a home, a dwelling place, for God's Spirit to move into.</u> It's like God packed His bags and moved in! He brought all His goodness, all His riches, and and all His treasures and filled up your house with them. In one of Jesus' parables, He tells His disciples that when the previous tenants inside your worldly heart are removed, His Spirit comes in, cleans everything up and sets the house in order (Matthew 12:44). As you read God's Word and meditate on His promises, the house (which is your heart) is filled with heavenly treasures.

Valuable things are stored in the deep.

God chooses to make His abode in your heart because that's where the deep things are. Think of precious stones which are buried deep below the earth, treasures that have sunk to the bottom of the ocean, or oil trapped beneath the earth's crust. All of these things are of great value. However, one reason they are all so valuable is because they are not easily accessible. They are scarce resources. Not everyone has gold, silver and diamonds sitting in their purse. Not everyone can dig a hole in their back yard and suck up enough oil to fill up their car tank. If they did, then the these things would lose their value rather quickly! What makes these things valuable is they are limited and in high demand.

In the Old Testament, the prophet Isaiah tells King Cyrus, "I will give you hidden treasures, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that I am the LORD, the God of Israel, who summons you by name." (Isaiah 45:3 NIV) Notice here how Isaiah is telling this man chosen by God to do great things that God has treasures hidden just for him! In the same way, God is calling you by name. He has great things you don't know about yet stored up just for you. They are hidden. <u>You don't know everything God has in store for you, but one thing you can be sure of: the things and plans God has for you are very good!</u>

God has not hidden His blessings and treasures from you. Rather, He has hidden them for you.

Right now you may be thinking, "OK, McKade. So if God has things hidden for me, where are they?" The Bible tells us in Proverbs 25:2 (KJV), "It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of

kings is to search out a matter." <u>The key to discovering all God has for you is by seeking Him.</u> Jesus tells His disciples in Matthew 7:7-8 (NKJV), "**Ask**, and it will be given to you; **seek**, and you will find; **knock**, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks **receives**, and he who seeks **finds**, and to him who knocks it will be **opened**." Notice the bolded words added for emphasis in these two verses. In order to experience God's richest blessings there is a requirement on our end. We must (1) ask Him, (2) seek Him, and (3) knock on His door. When we go to God in prayer, asking Him for things, seeking Him in His Word, and knocking on the door of Heaven for a miracle or a breakthrough, we can expect to receive what we are asking for, find what we are looking for, and have a new open door to walk through.

A productive quiet time is crucial to seeing God's blessings in your life. <u>Spending time with God is</u> <u>what causes your relationship with Him to go deeper.</u> Prayer time and the study of God's Word is what opens doors and causes things to happen you could never make happen on your own. Every time I sit to read God's Word it is like opening a chest full of treasures God has for me. The Scripture says ALL treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden in our relationship with Jesus Christ (Colossians 2:3). Without Christ, we are cut off from knowing and living out the abundant life God desires to give us.

When you begin storing up the Word of God in your heart, it's like drilling deep into the ground ready to strike oil. You are ready to pump up the valuable substance and obtain its value. The deeper you dig into the Word, you will soon discover the valuable things of God - the gold, the silver, the platinum, and other precious metals so to speak. God's Word is of tremendous value! His Word is what gives life. His Word is eternal.

By learning and meditating on Scripture, you are setting yourself up for God to do something great in your life!

You are magnetizing your life to draw up the stored blessings God has for you. <u>Restored</u> <u>relationships, better health, and provision are being drawn to you.</u> Peace of mind and joy begin to well up. A deeper sense of purpose and destiny increase your confidence that God is in control and tells you that you are on the right track! While everything may not be perfect and you may still experience worldly opposition, you know God has you in the palm of His hand.

When I first began writing as part of my profession, I was overwhelmed with the newness of a brand new world of being an author. It was a dream from years before that had finally come true. What some on the outside looking into my life may not realize is for months before writing books, mailing out newsletters, and creating videos I had spent hours and hours reading through the Bible and spending a great deal of time in prayer before I wrote the first sentence to a book. Looking back I could ask God why I didn't start writing books when I first had the dream while in college, at a time when the dream was still fresh and my fire was burning to start writing. *Why wait over five years to launch into a dream*?

<u>One reason I believe God waited was so I would go deeper.</u> There was a maturity and experience needed that only time (in this case years) provided, and a knowledge of God's Word was required before I was equipped to write books and be confident in who God created me to be. It wasn't that I had given up the dream during those years of nothing happening, but rather, it was God developing my character and pushing me to persevere. James 1:4 (NIV) says, "Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything." When I started writing in 2014, I

remember the first time I sat down like it was yesterday. I could sense there was a supernatural presence enabling me to finally sit, focus, and write a book from start to finish!

Friends, when the time has come, God will not be one millisecond late in bringing your dream to pass.

<u>Today, I believe God is calling you to dig deeper into His Word.</u> The treasures of His Word are stored up for you so you can live out your God-given destiny. When God's Word starts to dwell inside your heart, your world will begin to change. His Holy Spirit inside you is alive and active, ready to guide you and cause things to work in your favor. Whether you are looking for a breakthrough in your finances, for a deeper purpose in life, to go into ministry, to venture into a new business, or find a new career, seek God first. The answers are hidden in Christ. Your job is to *ask, seek, and knock*. He has not hidden the blessing from you. He has hidden the blessing for you!

It is time for you to dive into the ocean of God's Word and His Spirit. The treasures below the surface are far greater than anything this world has to offer! *Right now I believe God is drilling deep and perforating your soul in order to draw out the deep things in your heart.* As you meditate on His Word, the good treasure is coming up. Unanswered prayers are being filled with a peace from God. Chains from the past are falling off of you. A bright future is right in front of you. Any negative thing spoken over you by others is dissolving in the presence of God. You are blessed and chosen by Him!

God is holding no good thing from your life because you walk with Him (Psalm 84:11). When someone tries to bring you down, God is causing you to rise higher. *When people make negative comments about you, flick those words off like a gnat.* Declare what God says about you:

I am rich in Christ. 2 Corinthians 8:9

I am full of wisdom and knowledge. Ephesians 1:17

I am blessed to be a blessing. Genesis 12:2

I am in the royal bloodline of Jesus Christ. Galatians 3:29

I am anointed and prosperous. Deuteronomy 8:18

As you grow in the Word of God, I believe the roots of your faith are going deeper and the abundant life Jesus has promised you will begin to fill your life (John 10:10). I encourage you to pray the following prayer aloud, as you place your trust in God to bring out the deep treasures He's placed in your heart:

Father God,

Thank You for giving me Your Word so that I might have the abundant life You have promised. Teach me to walk in Your ways and to live out the purposes and plans You have for my life. I thank You that Your plans for me are always good. Thank You that You have treasures which are not hidden from me, but rather, treasures stored up just for me!

> In Jesus' Name, Amen

During this winter season I am praying and believing you begin to experience the deep things God has placed in your heart to accomplish. As you spend time with Him and meditate on His Word, you can expect God to reveal the good treasure He has in store for you!

In closing, if you are subscribed to my newsletters but do not receive weekly e-mails from me, I strongly encourage you to go to <u>www.McKadeMarshall.com</u> and submit your e-mail address on the contact page. Every Sunday I e-mail subscribers a 15 to 20 minute video called *Word of the Week* with an inspiring Christian message. I do not want you to miss out on these weekly videos so make sure you are signed up to receive *Word of the Week* in your e-mail inbox every Sunday!

Thank you for all your prayers and support of this ministry. Every day I can see God's hand at work, and I know that it is in large part because of your prayers! So, thank you for being a part of what God is doing to reach more people with the love of Christ. This winter I declare God is taking you into the depths of His Word. He is opening up His chests full of treasure in Heaven and going before you causing things to happen you never thought possible! **Health**, **life**, **joy**, **promotion**, **peace**, **restoration**, **and prosperity are headed your way because you honor Him.** Keep God first in all you do. I love you, and I am praying for you.

Going Deeper in Christ,

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McKade "Levi" Marshall Author of "BREATHE" and "Tasting the Goodness of God"

P.S. Check out the new cool "Breathe" bookmarks enclosed!

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