

# “Bigger Blessings”

By McKade Marshall

*Great are the mercies of God.* There is nothing like being let off the hook by the Lord. If we are all honest with ourselves, we know there have been times when the Lord did not allow us to receive what we deserved. We ran with the wrong crowd and could have gotten killed, but God spared our life. We said a hurtful word that could have ruined a relationship, but God mended the wound before it severed the friendship. We made a poor choice that sent our life spiraling the wrong direction, but God sent a good friend to help us get our life back on track. In many cases, the Lord will allow us to experience a blessing even when we know we messed things up. This is what makes Him so good! He is in the business of restoring what is broken and even goes one step further to make things better than they were before.

**His mercy is what enables us to turn our mess into our message.** God foreknew, before He created anything or anyone, that we were not going to be perfect. A great example of this is babies. Babies make dirty diapers. Babies don't care what time it is when they want Mom to rock them back to sleep. Babies will let you know when they are hungry, and they will make sure to notify you until you pull out the bottle. Now babies are adorable. They are fun to play with and make funny faces at - but are they perfect? No. Of course not. They are just babies! They have a lot to learn, and God knows they are going to make plenty of mistakes as they grow older. However, just because babies don't come out of the womb already programmed to feed themselves, leave the parents alone when it's bedtime, and know how to use the bathroom, that doesn't stop people from having children.

On the contrary, part of the joy of being a parent is watching your child grow, learn, and mature. In the same way, our walks with God are no different. The Bible talks about how when we come to know God through Jesus Christ that something supernatural happens inside. God makes His invitation through the Spirit of Christ to come and abide in you. Once you receive this invitation you become spiritually born again (see John 3:3-6). The Holy Spirit comes and lives in you. You are no longer navigated by your own natural desire, but rather, by Christ's Spirit that lives in you. It doesn't mean you will never make a mistake again, but it does mean you are going to grow more and more into who God created you to be over time.

*When you surrender your life to God, He pulls out His oil in the heavenlies and anoints you to grow.* He dispatches angels to guard your path and watch over you (Psalm 91:11). This is what happened to Abraham's son Isaac in the Scriptures. During a time of famine, when Isaac should have been struggling to get by and make ends meet, he was thriving. **Genesis 26:12 (NLT) says, “When Isaac planted his crops that year, he harvested a hundred times more grain than he planted, for the LORD blessed him.”** Isaac had God's blessing on his life so much so that what was happening around him had no impact on his success. He grew when times were good. He grew when times were difficult. He had the Lord's anointing on his life to grow.

In order for Isaac to grow he first had to plant the seed. Had Isaac not planted his crops, he would not have seen the hundredfold return at harvest time. The key to Isaac's success was not only having God's blessing but also having a diligent hand to plant the seed and do his part. If Isaac planted the wrong seed, he would have seen wrong results. If Isaac had not planted any seeds, but sat back and just endured the famine with everyone else, he would have never seen the abundance of grain a few months later. He had the anointing of God on his life, and he chose to use it. Isaac did not cause the harvest to be plentiful. God did. **However, Isaac partnered with God by putting his faith into motion.** When Isaac planted the seed, he was essentially saying, "God, I don't see a way to grow crops with this famine going on right now, but I know You can do all things for the one who believes." God honored Isaac's efforts.

*Likewise, God will honor you when you step out in faith and plant the seeds.* The Lord can cause you to grow in season and out of season. My question is: what kind of seeds are you planting? Are you planting good seeds? Are you using your gifts to help others? Are you managing what you already have the best you can? Or, are you planting bad seeds? Are you holding back on what you know God has called you to do? Are you being careless with what you have been given? We are all planting seeds everyday by the way we live and by the things we do. We are planting a seed when we spend time with our children. We are planting a seed when we give an encouraging word to our neighbor next door or to a friend.

The Bible says when you give it will be given back to you in an even greater measure (Luke 6:38). I believe this is the season we are entering into as we finish the year strong. This is the season to both give and to receive the good things of God in our lives. *This is the season for bigger blessings.* The Lord spoke through and still speaks through the prophet Jeremiah today, when He declares in Jeremiah 33:3 (NKJV), "**Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.**" In other words, God is saying, "Call on Me so I can show you the big stuff! Call on Me so I can give you the bigger blessings." Bigger blessings look different for each one of us. Everyone is at a different place in their walks with God, in their careers, and in their family life. However, one thing is true for all of us: You are anointed by God to grow!

*As you consider how big God is, consider what He is capable of accomplishing in your life.* Allow your faith to stretch. Dare to dream bigger. Believe bigger. Break out of any tunnel vision and allow your vision to grow. This is the challenge the Israelites faced when Moses led them out of the hands of Pharaoh and into the wilderness. God told them repeatedly they were headed to the Promised Land. The Promised Land for the Hebrews was big. The fruit there was big. The resources there were big. However, there was only one thing standing in their way. Their enemies were big. To most of the tribe of Israel, their enemies were too big! When God told Israel they were entering the land flowing with milk and honey, did He forget about the strong inhabitants already residing there? Of course not. He was testing Israel's faith.

Would Israel obey God and inherit the bigger blessings, or would they shrink back in fear and perish in the wilderness? Unfortunately, only two people and their families of the original tribe of Israel entered the Promised Land - Joshua and Caleb. When Joshua and Caleb spied out the land, they saw how big their adversaries were. **However, they also knew how big their God was.** If God could cause Pharaoh's army to be swallowed up in the Red Sea, He could surely drive out Israel's enemies living in their Promised Land. Joshua and Caleb were the only two men of the eleven spies sent out to see the Promised Land that inherited the bigger blessings. The other nine men failed to believe for the bigger blessings God had in store and never entered the Promised Land again.

Today God is testing your faith. Will you dare to believe for the bigger blessings, even after you see how large the opponent is? Or will you shrink back into the familiarity of slavery and the wilderness? One way you prove your faith is by making an effort to move towards what God is calling you to do. *Psalm 90:17 (NLT) says, "And may the Lord our God show us His approval and make our efforts successful. Yes, make our efforts successful!"* When you choose to believe, regardless of the facts, you are releasing your faith. You aren't denying the facts. The facts may tell you you don't have enough money to buy that car to help you get around easier. The facts may tell you you don't have the down payment to buy that house to raise your family in. The facts may tell you you will not get your health back. The facts may tell you you didn't test well enough in school to go any higher in your career.

**The good news is God is not subject to our "facts".** God is not subject to anyone and is not limited by our resources. Nothing is impossible for God. God can cause you to acquire the new asset - the car, the house, the office space, the contract - you need when you thought there was no way on paper. God can cause your health to improve even when the medicine doesn't seem to really be working. God can turn the heart of a boss to give you favor and move up in the company. When the facts seem to be working in the opposite direction of the dreams God has placed in your heart, keep standing in faith. When you experience a setback, prepare yourself for a comeback.

*You have bounce back in your spirit to keep going.* When you get knocked down, bounce back up! Use any negative experiences or losses as fuel for the fire within. God can take those ashes and use them to make the soil of your heart fertile for new life and new growth. Make room in your heart for the new thing God wants to do. He can take the hurts, the wounds, and the losses and make something beautiful in return. I remember when I first started making videos with an inspirational Christian message online called *Word of the Week*. When I first started, a lady posted some very negative comments on one of my first videos. She told me the video was no good, and nobody was going to like my work. At first I was offended and upset - but then, something rose up within me.

Those negative words turned into fuel for the fire to keep going. Every week I had to ignore those negative comments and remember Who was directing my steps. I gave God my best effort every time I filmed. Each week I could see improvements. I became more comfortable speaking in front of a camera. The quality got better. The material I wrote began to resonate with people watching online. As I discovered new ways to share the videos and reach more people with the gospel, I began to get more positive feedback and even hear testimonials of how God used the message to help someone. Little by little God has caused my audience to grow.

**Through subscribers and online ads, these videos have reached audiences from over 140 countries all over the world.** While I still get the "dislike" sometimes on my videos, the stories of how God used a *Word of the Week* message in the life of another far outweigh any negative comments. *Word of the Week* is viewed thousands of times every week by different people in various countries. If I could see the lady who criticized one of my first videos, I should thank her for giving me the fuel I needed to keep going! God took those words and gave me beauty for ashes.

Like Isaac, I went from having no crops to having an abundance in less than a year. I went from little to no experience speaking in front of a camera by myself with no viewers to having many hours in front of the camera with viewers from all over the world! I share all of these things not to boast about anything I have done, but rather what God has done through me when I gave my best effort to do what I felt like He was calling me to do. I believe these things are just the beginnings of what God wants to do in this ministry.

*This season God is ushering bigger blessings into your life.* I believe the things you have been praying about, hoping for, and believing in faith for are being released. This fall is a time for God to richly bless your business, your church, and your community in a fresh new way. I can hear the sounds of revival coming! Ears and hearts everywhere are being opened for God's goodness to be received. As you wait expectantly, keep planting the good seed in your life. Sow words of life, peace, victory, and abundance into those around you. Keep marching forward as God leads. No giant, no obstacle, and no problem is too great to keep you from receiving what God has already ordained to be yours.

In closing, if you are subscribed to my newsletters but do not receive weekly e-mails from me, I encourage you to go to [www.McKadeMarshall.com](http://www.McKadeMarshall.com) and submit your e-mail address on the contact page. **Every Sunday I e-mail hundreds of 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!

*I declare this fall God is causing things to fall into place at just the right time.* The heavens are opening up with bigger blessings that you do not already know about. Divine appointments and new relationships are being orchestrated in your life as you seek after the Lord. **This fall new doors of opportunity are opening for you to go to a new level of your destiny.** As you wait on the Lord, He is breaking down barriers and tearing down strongholds so you can move forward into your Promised Land! I love you, and I am praying for you.

Believing Bigger,



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

*P.S. A new book is in the works... I cannot wait to share it with you!*

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