

Keys to Living the Abundant Life

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I. Introductory Remarks.

Jesus said in John 10:10 that He came to give us a life that is filled with abundance. He doesn't want us just existing in need and want, but wants us to experience the fullness of what He has to offer.

As you consider your life, "Do you sense you are walking in fulfillment of this scripture or are you in a place of want and need that never seems to be filled?"

According to Matthew 6:25-33 we are not to worry or even be concerned about our basic needs in life such as food, shelter and clothing. If we are seeking first the kingdom of God all these things will be added unto us.

I believe there is a spiritual fullness that God is really trying to deposit into our lives that is much more important than our basic needs. It is when we are walking in spiritual fullness of all that He has to pour into our soul and spirit that our basic needs and much more are taken care of.

Isaiah 55:2-3 Why do you spend money for what is not bread, and your wages for what does not satisfy? ***Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, and let your soul delight itself in abundance.*** ³ *Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you; the sure mercies of David.*

This Scripture points out the peril of an empty soul and how vain it is to put your trust in the things of the world and carnal pleasures. As Christians, who have been born again by God's Spirit, it is foolish to trust in the empty things of this life. In order to be truly satisfied in this life we must invest our lives in those things that have eternal value rather than those things that are of temporal value.

In contrast to having an empty soul, I believe it is God's deepest desire for each of us to experience God meeting our deepest needs with a spiritual fullness that flows from His being. As we listen to Him and follow His instructions our soul will delight in His abundance. His desire is to bring us into a place of spiritual fullness.

Psalms 36:8 They are abundantly satisfied with the fullness of Your house, And You give them drink from the river of Your pleasures.

When I use the words "Spiritual Fullness", what are some of the things that come to

your mind? Let me give you an idea of what I am talking about.

II. What Is Meant By Spiritual Fullness?

- **The Fullness of God's blessing constitutes the following:**

God & His Presence	Finances	Joy
Wisdom & Understanding	Emotional Needs	Freedom from Guilt
Divine Guidance	Peace	Knowledge of God's Will
Healing	Righteousness	Spiritual Rest

When I think of spiritual fullness I think of being abundantly satisfied in each of these areas. These are the areas that are important to my life both spiritually and naturally.

- **I believe God wants us to open our mouth wide and be filled.**

Psalm 81:10 *I am the LORD your God, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt; Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.*

As we open our mouths wide we are preparing our heart to receive the fullness of all that God has to offer us, which includes all thing that pertain unto life and godliness.

Psalm 16:11 *You will show me the path of life. In Your presence is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*

III. Vital Keys to Receiving Abundant Life with Spiritual Fullness.

Now that we know that God really desires for each of us to be abundantly satisfied fro the fullness of His house, let's look at some vital keys in opening our mouths and receiving from Him.

1. Have a Heart to Thirst and Seek for God.

Psalm 63:1 *O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You In a dry and thirsty land Where there is no water.*

Matthew 5:6 *Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.*

Psalm 143:6 *spread out my hands to You; My soul **longs** for You like a thirsty land.*

“To long after God” implies in the Hebrew “to seek greedily.” It is a very aggressive

word. This would involve intensive prayer and fasting on occasions in addition to your regular times of prayer and worship. Personal and corporate worship are ways of thirsting after God.

Psalm 107:9 *For He satisfies the longing soul, and fills the hungry soul with goodness.*

This would include lots of time praying in the Spirit as well. It is when we pray in the Spirit that we build ourselves up in God and grow in a faith that is filled with a fullness that only He can bring.

1 Corinthians 14:4 *He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.*

Jude 1:20 *But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,*

2. Be committed to God's Purpose and Destiny for Your Life.

2 Timothy 1:9 *God, who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began.*

Because we are saved and called according to God's purpose, He has created each of us uniquely with a grace and destiny that is to be worked out in alignment with His own purpose and grace.

Psalm 139:16-17 *Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written. The days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them. ¹⁷ How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God!*

David understood that God had already marked out a destiny for Him and that He committed His way unto the Lord, it would be worked out.

The more we seek to come into alignment and commit ourselves to the path that God has purposed for our lives, the more of His abundance and pleasures we will be able to partake of.

His abundance is found on the path He has chosen for us, and not on the path of self-will. Our calling is according to His purpose, not our own works.

3. Have a Real Love for the Time You Spend with God In His Word.

It is as we purpose to spend time in God's Word that we really get to know Him and how He thinks. As we do our mind and thoughts become more and more conformed to His will and purpose for our lives.

Romans 12:2 *And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.*

Psalms 1:1-3 *Blessed is the man who... delights in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. ³ He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.*

4. You Must Be Spiritually Minded.

Romans 8:6 *For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*

To be spiritually minded is to resist the old paradigm of thinking that comes from being carnally minded and to completely trust in God's ways.

Proverbs 3:5-6 *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.*

Isaiah 26:3 *You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.*

5. Be a Generous Giver in all Areas.

Spiritual fullness and abundance comes from being a generous giver in every aspect of our lives, which includes serving, spiritual gifts, hospitality, loving others, our finances and more.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8 *But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷ So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.*

Malachi 3:10 *"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.

Luke 6:38 *"Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."*

6. Have A Continued Heart of Repentance.

It's important to understand that repentance is conforming and changing our thoughts about everything to agree with God's thoughts and ways that are much higher than ours.

It's also important to keep in mind that we are in a continuous state of repentance before God as we are progressively being changed and conformed into His image.

It is as we yield to Him through each paradigm shift that we experience the refreshing and spiritual fullness of His abundance and pleasures towards us.

2 Corinthians 3:18 *But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord. Are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.*

7. Learn How To Rest In God.

Isaiah 30:15 *For thus says the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel: "In returning and rest you shall be saved; In quietness and confidence shall be your strength." But you would not,*

Psalms 116:7 *Return to your rest, O my soul, For the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.*

Matthew 11:28-29 *"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.*

IV. Concluding Remarks.

We have seen that it is God's desire that we as born again Christians walk in the spiritual fullness that causes us to experience an abundant life in Him. His desire as we have seen is to abundantly satisfy us with the fullness of His house. It's up to us to drink and be filled with the Holy Spirit, who brings us His fullness into our lives. It is when we fail to drink from His fullness that we experience added demonic activity

in our lives. If our lives are full of God and His goodness, Satan doesn't stand much of a chance with us. So let's drink up and experience all that God has for us.

ⁱ All Scripture references are from the New King James Bible unless otherwise noted.