## MAKING WAY FOR THE BLESSINGS OF GOD

As this is the "turnaround season," I am sure we've all been praying for the blessings of God to come on us. We all want to be abundantly blessed by God. We all want to be prosperous and successful. While I believe that God wants to bless His children, I also believe that God wants to teach us how to make way for His blessings. It is true that some Christians receive more blessings than others. It is true that we can do things that prohibit God from being able to bless us. But, I don't know of any Christian who wouldn't want to receive as many blessings from God as possible. So, how do we go about living our lives in such a way that we can expect to receive more blessings? How do we make way for more blessings?

- (1) <u>PRAYER</u>. To receive as many blessings as possible we need to know what He likes and dislikes. And, the first thing we need to consider is prayer. Prayer is how He stays in touch with us., and it's how we stay in touch with Him. He speaks to us while we are speaking to Him. I've seen it happen many times, and you probably have also. This form of communication makes way for the blessings of God. Start by praying the Lord's Prayer every day.
- (2) <u>FORGIVENESS</u>. Having unforgiveness in your heart is a sure way of blocking the blessings of God. Matthew 6:14-15 says. "If you forgive people their sins, your Father in heaven will forgive your sins also. If you do not forgive people their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins." That's scary isn't it? If I'm truly willing to forgive those who wrong me, I have the assurance that my daily mistakes will be forgiven. Whereas, if I am unwilling to forgive others I am in debt to my Heavenly Father. This is like trying to draw from an account that is already overdrawn!

- (3) OBEDIENCE. By being obedient to the Word of God you will make way for the blessings of God. Joshua 1:8 says, "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success."
- (4) <u>PATIENCE</u>. An impatient person is never around when the blessings of God arrive. What a shame! Hebrews 6:12 says, "Do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and <u>patience</u> inherit the promises." The blessings you are due to receive (in the future), are dependent on the degree of patience you exercise.
- (5) <u>FAITH</u>. Hebrews 11:6 states, "And without <u>faith</u> it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him." You cannot make way for God to bless you unless you are pleasing Him. And "faith" is what pleases God most!
- (6) <u>KINDNESS</u>. Showing kindness to all those you come into contact with, will make a way for God to bless you. In Ruth 3:10 the Lord said, "Blessed are you of the Lord, my daughter! For you have shown more <u>kindness</u> at the end than at the beginning, in that you did not go after young men, whether poor or rich." The more kindness we show, the more blessed of the Lord we will become!
- (7) <u>LOVE</u>. Every time we love the way God loves, we are acting the way He acts and imitating His divine character. 1 John 4:16, "And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him."

In verse 20, John makes a stronger point, "If someone says, 'I love God', and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?" The most effective way to open the windows of heaven is to love as He loves - unconditionally! We are not only to love those that love us, for even the unbeliever does that, we are expected to love everyone.

I am convinced that God wants to bless His children (as all good father's do) with every blessing. Not with tiny blessings, but with abundant and extraordinary blessings! Didn't Jesus says. "How much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" (Luke 11:11) The Holy Spirit is the greatest gift of all!

Let us therefore, purpose to make way for more and more blessings from God. Let's expect the windows of heaven to open up and pour out blessings that we are unable to contain! Jesus said that He has come that we might have the "God kind of life," and to have it in super-abundance! Hallelujah!