

## God's Abundance

Some days I get so wrapped up in what I lack that I forget that I serve the God of ultimate abundance.

I lack time to get everything done. Even if I had the time, I would probably lack energy. I lack patience when I'm driving. OK, also when I'm parenting. OK, I also sometimes lack patience when I'm pastoring. I lack the funds to fix the things that are broken. And I have discovered that there are times when I lack compassion when I am fatigued.

Please don't read all that as anything but my being transparent, being "real."

Yet, as real as all that is, there is a greater reality: the God who has called you and me to follow Jesus is the God of ultimate abundance. And knowing that helps restore me.

Look at what God has said:

- Psalm 50:9-10 I have no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens, for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills.
- Ephesians 2:4-5 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.
- Philippians 4:19 And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.
- John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. (ESV)
- 2 Corinthians 9:7-8 Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

We call upon a God of abundance in a world of scarcity. We serve a God whose love is certain even while we are surrounded by uncertainty. We worship the God of blessing even though the world itself might condemn us.

Trusting that we serve a God of abundance has a way of reframing our perspective. Instead of burying the talents or the resources God abundantly has lavished upon us, we put those gifts to work for the sake of His kingdom (see Matthew 25:14-30). As we see that the Lord has entrusted us with His abundance, we anticipate that He Himself will provide the increase as we serve Him.

How is the God of abundance blessing you? How will He use you to be a blessing to others?

~ *Pastor Ken*

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