

Discipleship Tip

"What lives grows" - Ps Phil Pringle.

2 Cor 3:6. In the Bible, we see that when the Spirit came upon people, they were equipped. We need the Holy Spirit power on us to transform people's lives.

Connect Group Notes

21 Mar 2010

Ps Phil Pringle

The Big Life

Eph 3:20 (MSG). "God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us."

The abundant life happens when we get connected with God. God's plan for us is one of abundance – a big life, a life of dreams, an over-the-top life. Religion will tell us that we can't have a big life, but this is not what Scripture says.

God's intention for our life is a pathway of abundance. (Ps 65:11 NKJV). One of these paths is the path of faith, the path of being a positive person. It takes an intention to be positive, to have faith.

Ps 23:5 (NKJV). There is always a table prepared for you. If you look at the table instead of the enemies, you will see the food.

God is the God of the extra, of huge reserves, of abundance. (John 10:10 MSG). Every time Jesus did a miracle it was in abundance – more than was required. He is not the God of "just enough", but the God of abundance.

- **John 3** – Jesus turning water into wine at the wedding feast. 180 gallons at the end of the wedding!
- **Matt 14** – Jesus feeds the five thousand with 5 loaves of bread and 2 fishes – and there were 12 baskets left over.
- We see God's abundance all around us in the world in which we live – such as the animals and wild life God created.
- **1 Tim 6:17 (NKJV).** He gave us all things to enjoy.
- **Mal 3:10 (NKJV).** Pour out a blessing. Not enough room to receive it.

The big life is about changing our mindset with positive confessions from the Word of God. It's about going from small to great. For example the story of Gideon (Judges 6): he was the least in his family, his family was the smallest in the Tribe, the Tribe was the smallest in Israel.

God believes in us, even when we don't believe in ourselves. He has a big plan for our lives even when we can't see one ourselves. **Jer 29:11 (NKJV & MSG).**

- Moses – he was a discarded child. God intervened in his young life as he was hidden in the reeds floating on the river.
- Abraham – God spoke to him and called him outside of his tent to look up the stars. Outside of the place of limitations, God told him to look as far as he could see.

In **Phil 4:11-13** Paul says he has learned:

- It doesn't matter what our circumstances are.
- The outside life does not have to dictate to the inside life.
- We can still choose the big life on the inside.

Job lost everything. His business was wiped out in a single day. He lost his family on same day. Then he lost his health. Yet he refused to let his circumstances get to his attitude on the inside. The person who worships God in both the good times and the bad times is the one who experiences the biggest life.

Sometimes bad things happen to good people and the reason why remains a mystery.

All we have to do is switch on our faith. Faith is when you believe that something will happen even though you can't see how. A life of abundance begins in our soul. A generous soul will be made rich.

TALK ABOUT

- What areas of your life have you seen abundance in?
- What areas of your life are you believing for abundance in?
- What new areas of your life do you need to switch your faith on for?

REPORTING <http://myc3church.net/cgi-bin/exform.pl>

Register now for Presence (6-9th April). Visit <http://www.presenceconference.com/> for more info or visit <http://www.myc3church.net/node/313> to register.

Don't forget it's Prayer and Fasting week! 22nd – 28th March. Early prayer in the Prayer Chapel at 6am – 7am. Please ring the Church office (9972 8688) if unsure whether you should fast or for more info.