

LEARNING TO BE A TAKER (RECEIVER) SO THAT WE CAN BECOME GIVERS

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Matt. 7:8; Acts 3:5

Our theme is to have faith to be a great receiver from God. This means we are expecting God to act for us (Isa. 64:4). We have been taught that God wants us to be givers, not takers. This is very true. *But before you can be a giver you must learn to take (receive) from God.* The Lord wants us to *dechomai*, Greek for, to receive by deliberate and ready reception of what is offered (by God), to take hold with the hand, firmly grasp. God always responds with provision when there is expectation. Trust the Lord (Jer. 17:7-8),

1. Receive (take) defined:

- Expecting God to supply abundantly by making room for divine blessings with open hand and heart; seizing by faith and prayer warfare what God purposes to release into our lives.
- **Mark 11:24**-Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

2. Faith in the Promiser and the promises

- The Promiser: Faith in one who pledges to another to do or not do something specified; a declaration which gives the one to whom it is made a right to expect or to claim the forbearance or performance of a specified promise.
- Hebrews 10:23-Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.
- The promises: A pledge, a word of honor, a vow, an oath, warranty, guarantee, a covenant. It is the ground for hope, expectation, assurance or eventual success.
- Psalms 1:3-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.

3. Faith to Receive

- Matt. 7:8-For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.
- A. Greek words for Receiving: To take from an open hand; hold on to expecting results; firmly grasp; taking responsibility for what you grasp (faith); make room for.
- B. Receivers respect the Promises and Reject Unbelief (They do not waver-Ro. 4:20)
 1. Unbelief cause one to stagger (make own judgments)
 2. Remember who made the promise: Ps. 78:19-Can God spread a table in the wilderness?
 3. Magnifies the problem: seasick during the entire voyage of life.
- C. Receivers give Glory to God: Strengthened in faith & gave glory to God (Ro. 4:20) by unquestioning confidence in His promises
- D. Receivers are Fully Confident in God's Ability: Ro. 4:21-fully persuaded-like a ship carried forward with full sail! Giving out all the canvas!
- E. Receivers Activate God's Laws of Sowing & Reaping: Seed is a pre-programmed creation made by God to reproduce in like kind. (2 Cor. 9:6). Power of the seed, but it must be planted.

Be a Great Taker (Receiver) from God so You can be a Great Giver!