**Understanding The Mysteries of God concerning HIM as Our Only Source Handout #8**

**What do you think of when you hear the phrase, “The God of Increase**

1. **a.** Do you think of God simply helping you have more, or do you see Him helping you to become more and achieve more? **B**. This recently inspired me inspired me ...I can’t tell you how much I long for you to enter this wide-open, spacious life. ...The smallness you feel comes from within you. Your lives aren’t small, but you’re living them in a small way. ...Open up your lives. Live openly and expansively! (2 Cor. 6:11-13 MSG) **c**. Something had been happening in the hearts and minds of the Corinthians that had caused them to be restricted and constricted in their relationship not only to Paul, but also to God. **D**.As a result, they were living below the standards of a believer and expanding goodness that God had for them. Paul wanted them to realize the full potential of all that God had available to them. **E**. Consider God’s dealings with those He helped. God told Abraham (Genesis 12:2): “I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing.” He later told Abraham, “I will... multiply you exceedingly” (Genesis 17:2). **F.** Luke 2:52 says, “Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.” Speaking prophetically of Jesus, Isaiah said, “Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end” (Isaiah 9:7). **G**. Psalm 115:14 states, “May the LORD give you increase more and more, you and your children.
2. **When we say that God is a God of increase, there are many areas of our lives this applies to: a.** *We Are To Increase in Strength*. Proverbs 24:5 - ...a man of knowledge increases strength... Isaiah 40:29 - ...to those who have no might He increases strength. **B**. *We Are To Increase in Power.* Psalm 75:10 (NLT) - For God says, “I will break the strength of the wicked, but I will increase the power of the godly**.”** **C**. *We Are To Increase in Resources and Generosity*. Proverbs 11:24 (MSG) - The world of the generous gets larger and larger; the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller. 2 Corinthians 9:10 (NLT) - For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you. **D**. *We Are To Increase in the Knowledge of God*. Colossians 1:10 - ...that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God... **e.** *We Are To Increase in the Love of God*. 1 Thessalonians 3:12 - And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we do to you... **f.** *We Are To Increase Corporately as the Body of Christ*. Ephesians 4:16 (KJV) speaks of “...the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.” In Colossians 2:19, Paul indicated that as believers hold fast to Christ, the Head, that they grow “...with the increase that is from God.” Paul also said, “I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.” (1 Cor. 3:6-7) **g**. It is important that we acknowledge and trust God as the God of Increase
3. **We know that we are redeemed from the curse of the law, and that we are called to be a blessing a.** The word blessed in Hebrew means “empowered to prosper and increase.” **B.** Let us understand the full extent of that promise? **c**. The Bible says that God sends forth His Word to accomplish His will, and it will not return to Him void (Isaiah 55:11). **D**. So God expects us to continually access His Blessing–His Spirit of Increase in everything that we do. e**.** Psalm 115:14, KJV, says “The Lord shall increase you more and more, you and your children.” **E**. It is God’s will that you and your descendants increase in every area of life. **f.** Are you experiencing Kingdom increase and fullness in every area of life? If not, here are three things that will help you get on the path to increase.
4. **It important we understand That Increase is God’s Will** **a**. The Lord created mankind to expand Genesis 1:28, KJV, says, “God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.” **B**. God’s original intent for mankind was to increase and have dominion. His will has not changed. **c**. 3 John 2 says, “Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth” (KJV). **d.** God wants you prosperous! God wants you healthy! God wants you wise! It is His express will that you live in a perpetual state of increase–taking dominion and living a life of success. **E**. The word blessing means “increase and abundance,” whereas the closest definition of curse is “decrease and loss” Think about that. **F.** John 10:10 The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance [to the full, till it overflows] AMP **g**. A thief has only one thing in mind—he wants to steal, slaughter, and destroy. But I have come to give you everything in abundance, more than you expect —life in its fullness until you overflow! (PASSION) **h**. God’s will is for you to live a more abundant life–exceedingly abundantly above all you can ask or think, according to Ephesians 3:20, (KJV)! **i.** And Galatians 3:13-14, KJV, says that Jesus redeemed us from the curse of the law–that curse of decrease and loss–so that THE BLESSING of Abraham–increase and abundance–could come upon us.
5. **Two things that are important in receiving your increase**. **A.** **Believe the Word of God** That sounds so simple and obvious, but are you doing it? **B**. Mark 4:24-25, KJV, says, “And he said unto them, take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given. For he that hath, to him shall be given and he that hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he hath.” **c**. It may seem unfair to take away from those that have not and give to those who have but listen to what the Lord is saying here. Our level of increase is related to the amount of faith we have in the Word of God. **D**. Jesus is basically saying that we decide how much increase we will experience. If you hear the Word and believe it–mixing it with faith–you will increase. If you hear the Word and mix it with doubt and unbelief, you will decrease. **E**. God wants us to seek first His kingdom and His righteousness (Matthew 6:33), guard our hearts (Proverbs 4:23), meditate on His Word (Joshua 1:8), and believe what we hear (Hebrews 11:6). **F**. When you meditate on God’s Word, giving heed to what you hear and mixing it with faith, it will result in increase. An increase of faith. An increase of blessing. An increase of wisdom. **G**. However, you cannot look at the Word once, and walk away expecting a miracle or your increase. **H.** James 1:23-24 talks about the man who walks away after hearing the Word and forgets it.” 23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: 24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.” **I**. You must diligently seek the Lord and study His Word to experience great increase in your life. **J.** In the parable of the sower in Matthew 13? Those that bring forth fruit–30, 60 and one hundredfold are those who hear the Word and receive it. **K.** Something more happens to these people than just hearing the Word–they mix it with faith, and it brings forth fruit! **L**. Its critical you change your thinking from worldly unbelief and begin thinking faith thoughts. Believe that it truly is God’s will to prosper and increase you. **M**. Do not be conformed to this world (Romans 12:2)–that negative and hopeless way that the world thinks. But be transformed–changed into the image of Christ–by the renewing of your mind. **N**. That means that you should stop looking at what the world says about you and start believing what the Word says about you. **O**. That is the way you prove what God’s will is! You get to prove that God’s Word is right! You do not have to take somebody else’s word for it–you can prove what the Word says!
6. **Second thing is Speak Increase** **a.** God calls those things that are not as though they already exist, according to Romans 4:17–and you should too. **b** You have been created in His image to do the same things that He does. When your finances look bleak, speak to them. When your body looks sick, speak to it. When your faith is weak and you feel afraid, speak! Speak to your mountain! **C**. “For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he says” (Mark 11:23, KJV; also see Matthew 21:21, 17:20; Luke 17:6). **D** If you believe that the things you say will come to pass, they will! You shall have whatsoever you say! That is an amazing promise. **E**. Speak to your body. Speak to your finances. Speak to your children’s lives. They were created to expand and carry on a legacy. Every single part of your life was meant to expand and increase. **F.** You were created in the image of God and the Word says that His kingdom is ever expanding. **G**. So you are no longer be subject to your circumstances. You need to Rise up and understand that you were created for increase!
7. **The Desire For Increase Is A God Thing a.** The nature of God is giving. The desire for increase was planted within you before your very birth. God wants your increase. He is not a thief, but a Giver. **B**. Increase is the nature of God within you “the nature of a Multiplier. Millions of Christians are still blinded to the desires of God to give them increase. God does want you to be a thinking poverty, just enough BUT more than Enough-INCREASE **C.** Look at this powerful scripture on Increase. Deuteronomy 1:11 The Lord God of your fathers make you a thousand times so many more as ye are, and bless you, as he hath promised you!) **d.** God has even promised to bless us a thousand times more, and I pray that he will. **F**. Increase is in your Future. God wants to give you One Thousand Times More! **G**. One Thousand Times More Peace; One Thousand Times More Joy; One Thousand Times More Love; One Thousand Times More Finances. One Thousand Times More Wisdom. One Thousand Times More Miracles. One Thousand Times More Victories. One Thousand Times More Favor. One Thousand Times More Ideas. **H**. God is the God of Increase, the God of Multiplication and Miracles. He wants you to become One Thousand Times More than you have ever been. He wants to demonstrate His Power through your life. Release your Faith. The Seasons of Your Life Will Change Every Time You Decide to Use Your Faith. I. Let’s agree for the promise of One Thousand Times More. Let’s stand firm and not come out of this agreement until the Harvest arrives.