

TRUSTING IN GOD'S PROMISES TO PROVIDE

A Lord's Flock General Assembly Topic

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In the Old and New Testament, we often read God's promises; He is a promise keeper who wants us to live our life in godliness and abundance trusting Him fully in the midst of our struggle. Indeed, He is a great provider for our temporal and spiritual needs. As true believers, Jesus has reminded us to pray, hope, persevere and be totally dependent on His divine power. "For all the promises of God find their yes in Him" (2 Cor. 1:20).

A. Three (3) essential truths that will guide us as we wait for the unmet needs:

1. God wants to meet our needs.

In tangible ways, we present our petitions or needs to the Lord. "Ask, and you will receive, seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you" (Mt. 7:7).

2. The Lord knows our needs.

Even before we present our needs, God already knows it. It gladdens Him if we pray and ask with humility our dependence on Him. "Do not be anxious, but by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God" (Phil. 4:6).

3. God is able to meet our needs.

God promises us to provide everything we need. Let us stop worrying about problems. God is bigger than our problems. "So do not start worrying: "Where will my food come from? Or my drink? or my clothes? (Eph. 3:20)

B. What if our needs remain unmet?

1. Determine if it is a need or a want.

Need is something we must possess for essential living or for survival: food, clothing, shelter, and medical care. On the other hand, want is something we desire, but it is not important for survival. "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be given to you as well" (Mt. 6: 31-33).

2. Desire is for pleasure and enjoyment. We do not buy or desire things we do not need. "Delight

yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of our heart "(Ps. 37:4).

4. Determine the origin of your need.

To understand God's way of meeting our need is to know where it originates. Some of our problems are simply the result of living in a fallen world. "Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you ... they may see your good deed and glorify God on the day He visits us" (1 Pt. 2:12).

5. Other needs are created by our own unwise choices.

The Lord may delay answers to our prayers to teach us lessons and to protect us. "Praise for spiritual blessings in Christ" (Eph. 1:3-7).

6. Learn our responsibilities/roles.

- Ask the Lord for help (James 4:2-3).
- Meet our needs in His time (Ps. 27:14).
- Do what the Lord tells us to do (Is.55:8-9).

C. God's priorities in meeting our needs:

- Relationship with God is a must (Heb. 4:16).
- Christlikeness means God uses adversity to shape our character (1 Pt. 1:6-7).
- Faith is trust (Rom.4:18-21).
- Dependence is reliance on God (Prov. 3:5-6).
- Repentance is to feel remorse to sins (Jos. 7:1-7}
- Submission is God's desire to yield to His authority (Jam.4:7).
- Rewards are the Lord's promises to those who endure adversity (Heb. 10:32).

Conclusion:

God will stand on His promises. He will reward those who truly love Him. Moreover, He is a great provider; He will fully supply our needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:19).

Reflection:

- Is your trust in God absolute?
- Do you have a firm foundation to believe and trust in His promises to provide?

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