



**BULLDOZER FAITH**  
LIVING LIFE IN THE SPIRIT



*"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this," says the Lord of hosts, "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows. " (Malachi 3:10)*

# CROSSING POINT GLOBAL COMMUNITY

MAY 2021

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*"Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you.*

*And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing.*

*I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonours you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth will be blessed." Genesis 12:2-3*

*Abraham was blessed!*

## Blessed to be a Blessing

Everything we receive from Elohim is ultimately to be used for the benefit of The Kingdom, especially directed towards the welfare of believers and the salvation of the lost.

Think of every way in which the heavenly Father has blessed you, spiritually as well as materially. How can we use these blessings to bring change to this generation?

### What are you willing to do to be a blessing?

The gift of grace and blessings did not come easy for Yeshua, and they do not come easy for us as His followers either. We have to die to ourselves, take up our execution stake and follow Yeshua in the way He walked. He was born to be a blessing to the world, but it came as a very high price to Him and His Father. The path that Yehovah had for His Son was one of great sacrifice for them both.

Let's reflect on that for a moment...

For Yeshua to be a blessing, He had to lay down His life and live the life His Father, Yehovah, had planned for Him to restore mankind to Himself.

*"Going a little farther, He fell with His face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me, Yet not as I will, but as You will." (Matthew 26:39)*

The Father would have felt the pain of rejection that His Son felt when He forsook Him on the execution stake and physical torture at the hands of man.

*John 14:9-10 states, "Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works."*

Yeshua's ministry was all about giving; He showed us how the Father wants us to live a life of giving with a promise of blessing as we read in Malachi 3v10, "test me in this."

Even John the Immerser, who came in the spirit and power of Elijah to prepare the way for the Messiah, said, *"And the crowds were questioning him, saying, "Then what shall we do?" And he would answer and say to them, "The man who has two tunics is to share with him who has none; and he who has food is to do likewise." Luke 3:10-11*

In this month's newsletter, our goal is to share the scriptures to help us understand Biblical giving more and the importance of paying attention to keys that unlock blessings in our lives to make a more significant impact.

**Kenny**

# AM I IN RIGHT STANDING BEFORE YEHOVAH?

## - MALACHI 1 - NASB



### God's Love for Jacob

1 The oracle of the word of the Lord to Israel through Malachi.

2 "I have loved you," says the Lord. But you say, "How have You loved us?" "Was not Esau Jacob's brother?" declares the Lord. "Yet I have loved Jacob; 3 but I have hated Esau, and I have made his mountains a desolation and appointed his inheritance for the jackals of the wilderness." 4 Though Edom says, "We have been beaten down, but we will return and build up the ruins"; thus says the Lord of hosts, "They may build, but I will tear down; and men will call them the wicked territory, and the people toward whom the Lord is indignant forever." 5 Your eyes will see this and you will say, "The Lord be magnified beyond the border of Israel!"

**Elohim's people will prevail because His love endures forever.**

### Sin of the Priests

6 "'A son honors his father, and a servant his master. Then if I am a father, where is My honor? And if I am a master, where is My respect?' says the Lord of hosts to you, O priests who despise My name. But you say, 'How have we despised Your name?' 7 You are presenting defiled food upon My altar. But you say, 'How have we defiled You?' In that you say, 'The table of the Lord is to be despised.'

8 But when you present the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? And when you present the lame and sick, is it not evil? Why not offer it to your governor? Would he be pleased with you? Or would he receive you kindly?" says the Lord of hosts. 9 "But now will you not entreat God's favor, that He may be gracious to us? With such an offering on your part, will He receive any of you kindly?" says the Lord of hosts. 10 "Oh that there were one among you who would shut the gates, that you might not uselessly kindle fire on My altar! I am not pleased with you," says the Lord of hosts, "nor will I accept an offering from you.

**Am I offering my body as a living sacrifice pleasing to Yehovah, or are there areas in my life that I need to clean up and clear out?**

11 For from the rising of the sun even to its setting, My name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense is going to be offered to My name, and a grain offering that is pure; for My name will be great among the nations," says the Lord of hosts. 12 "But you are profaning it, in that you say, 'The table of the Lord is defiled, and as for its fruit, its food is to be despised.'

**Am I bringing GLORY to His NAME when I speak?**

13 You also say, 'My, how tiresome it is!' And you disdainfully sniff at it," says the Lord of hosts, and you bring what was taken by robbery and what is lame or sick; so you bring the offering! Should I receive that from your hand?" says the Lord.

**How much do I value salvation?**

14 "But cursed be the swindler who has a male in his flock and vows it, but sacrifices a blemished animal to the Lord, for I am a great King," says the Lord of hosts, "and My name is feared among the nations."

**Am I holding back my 'very best' from Elohim?**

# AM I IN RIGHT STANDING BEFORE YEHOVAH?

## - MALACHI 2 - NASB

### Priests to Be Disciplined

1 “And now this commandment is for you, O priests. 2 If you do not listen, and if you do not take it to heart to give honor to My name,” says the Lord of hosts, “then I will send the curse upon you and I will curse your blessings; and indeed, I have cursed them already, because you are not taking it to heart. 3 Behold, I am going to rebuke your offspring, and I will spread refuse on your faces, the refuse of your feasts; and you will be taken away with it. 4 Then you will know that I have sent this commandment to you, that My covenant may continue with Levi,” says the Lord of hosts. 5 “My covenant with him was one of life and peace, and I gave them to him as an object of reverence; so he revered Me and stood in awe of My name. 6 True instruction was in his mouth and unrighteousness was not found on his lips; he walked with Me in peace and uprightness, and he turned many back from iniquity. 7 For the lips of a priest should preserve knowledge, and men should seek instruction from his mouth; for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts. 8 But as for you, you have turned aside from the way; you have caused many to stumble by the instruction; you have corrupted the covenant of Levi,” says the Lord of hosts. 9 “So I also have made you despised and abased before all the people, just as you are not keeping My ways but are showing partiality in the instruction.

**Do I spend enough time in the Word and meditate on it day and night?**

**Is the truth in me so I can share it with others?**

### Sin in the Family

10 “Do we not all have one father? Has not one God created us? Why do we deal treacherously each against his brother so as to profane the covenant of our fathers? 11 Judah has dealt treacherously, and an abomination has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah has profaned the sanctuary of the Lord which He loves and has married the daughter of a foreign god. 12 As for the man who does this, may the Lord cut off from the tents of Jacob everyone who awakes and answers, or who presents an offering to the Lord of hosts.

**What is the quality of my relationships before a righteous Elohim?**

13 “This is another thing you do: you cover the altar of the Lord with tears, with weeping and with groaning, because He no longer regards the offering or accepts it with favor from your hand. 14 Yet you say, ‘For what reason?’ Because the Lord has been a witness between you and the wife of your youth, against whom you have dealt treacherously, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant. 15 But not one has done so who has a remnant of the Spirit. And what did that one do while he was seeking a godly offspring? Take heed then to your spirit, and let no one deal treacherously against the wife of your youth. 16 For I hate divorce,” says the Lord, the God of Israel, “and him who covers his garment with wrong,” says the Lord of hosts. “So take heed to your spirit, that you do not deal treacherously.” I am not pleased with you,” says the Lord of hosts, “nor will I accept an offering from you.

**“Do I love my wife? For her and for my children, am I laying down my life? What about the others?”** ([click here Steeple song by Don Francisco](#)) - *I couldn't have said it any better!*

17 You have wearied the Lord with your words. Yet you say, “How have we wearied Him?” In that you say, “Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of the Lord, and He delights in them,” or, “Where is the God of justice?”

**How do I handle my frustrations and unanswered questions before Yehovah?**

# AM I IN RIGHT STANDING BEFORE YEHOVAH?

## - MALACHI 3 - NASB

### The Purifier

1 “Behold, I am going to send My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight, behold, He is coming,” says the Lord of hosts. 2 “But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. 3 He will sit as a smelter and purifier of silver, and He will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, so that they may present to the Lord offerings in righteousness. 4 Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

5 “Then I will draw near to you for judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers and against the adulterers and against those who swear falsely, and against those who oppress the wage earner in his wages, the widow and the orphan, and those who turn aside the alien and do not fear Me,” says the Lord of hosts. 6 “For I, the Lord, do not change; therefore you, O sons of Jacob, are not consumed.

7 “From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from My statutes and have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you,” says the Lord of hosts. “But you say, ‘How shall we return?’

**Am I compromising my faith?**

### You Have Robbed God

8 “Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing Me! But you say, ‘How have we robbed You?’ In tithes and offerings. 9 You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing Me, the whole nation of you!

10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this,” says the Lord of hosts, “if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows. 11 Then I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of the ground; nor will your vine in the field cast its grapes,” says the Lord of hosts. 12 “All the nations will call you blessed, for you shall be a delightful land,” says the Lord of hosts.

**Am I giving Elohim a chance to prove His Word is true to me?**

13 “Your words have been arrogant against Me,” says the Lord. “Yet you say, ‘What have we spoken against You?’ 14 You have said, ‘It is vain to serve God; and what profit is it that we have kept His charge, and that we have walked in mourning before the Lord of hosts? 15 So now we call the arrogant blessed; not only are the doers of wickedness built up but they also test God and escape.’”

**Am I speaking life or death into existence?**

### The Book of Remembrance

16 Then those who feared the Lord spoke to one another, and the Lord gave attention and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before Him for those who fear the Lord and who esteem His name.

17 “They will be Mine,” says the Lord of hosts, “on the day that I prepare My own possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his own son who serves him.” 18 So you will again distinguish between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him.

**How do I know I belong to Elohim?**

# AM I IN RIGHT STANDING BEFORE YEHOVAH?

## - MALACHI 4 - NASB

### Final Admonition

1 "For behold, the day is coming, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and every evildoer will be chaff; and the day that is coming will set them ablaze," says the Lord of hosts, "so that it will leave them neither root nor branch."

2 "But for you who fear My name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings; and you will go forth and skip about like calves from the stall. 3 You will tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day which I am preparing," says the Lord of hosts.

4 "Remember the law of Moses My servant, even the statutes and ordinances which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel.

5 "Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord. 6 He will restore the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, so that I will not come and smite the land with a curse.

These are all critical questions we need to ask ourselves to be  
'BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING'

It starts by living righteously before the one who created us,  
Yeshua HaMachiach, Jesus of Nazareth



**THE**

**ART**

**OF**

**GIVING**

# THE ART OF GIVING - IN THE BEGINNING

## In The Beginning

Elohim's plan from the very beginning was to bless us continually. His Word to the very first man and woman He created was to bless them with everything we would need to survive and prosper on the earth.

Genesis 1:28-29, "Elohim blessed them; and Elohim said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves over the earth.' Then Elohim said, 'Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed, it shall be food for you.'"

He had already created the heavens and earth, the sun, moon and stars, day and night, plants yielding seed, fruit trees bearing fruit after their kind with seeds in them. Then He created all the creatures that would live in the waters, fly in the air, and ones that would walk on the earth.

Yehovah even blessed the creatures to prosper in the places He created them to live.

Genesis 1:22, "Elohim blessed them saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth.'"

And to the creatures that walked the earth, Elohim made each to reproduce after its kind.

Genesis 1:25, "Elohim made the beasts of the earth after their kind, and the cattle after their kind, and everything that creeps on the ground after its kind."

And to all that He had made, He said it was good!

**So, in the beginning**, Elohim gave us everything good and necessary to live a happy and blessed life. He created everything to multiply and keep reproducing after its kind so the whole earth would continue to prosper. Mankind was never meant to be in lack for anything!

The only requirement that Yehovah asked of mankind to live blessed in the Garden of Eden was their willingness to keep His command to not eat of the Tree of The Knowledge of Good and Evil, But to choose the tree of life (which is Yeshua) not the tree of death.

Genesis 2:16-17, "The Lord God commanded the man, 'From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it, you shall surely die.'"

We all know the next part of the story how the man and woman fell for the lies of satan, and the consequence of not obeying Elohim meant that we were banished from the garden. The place Elohim created as a home to be together as a family with Him was cut off. They lost their covering, and for the first time, mankind felt ashamed. What came so easy to them before was about to become very hard, and they would suffer for the things they required to live.

Genesis 3:17, "...Cursed is the ground because of you; In toil you will eat of it, all the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you; And you will eat the plants of the field; By the sweat of your face you will eat bread, Till you return to the ground."

Genesis 3:24, "So He drove the man out; and at the east of the garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim and the flaming sword which turned every direction to guard the way to the tree of life."

***So, disobedience to the spoken Word of Elohim stole our blessing, but obedience to the spoken and written Word of Elohim restores it; enter the Law/Torah...***

***It is also now written on the heart of every believer in Yeshua!***

Deuteronomy 30:19, "I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse, (see Deuteronomy 28) So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants, by loving the LORD your Elohim, by obeying His voice, and by holding fast to Him; for this is your life and the length of your days, that you may live in the land which the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and Jacob, to give them."

# THE ART OF GIVING - IN THE BEGINNING

**1.OFFERING** - "...Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the Lord. And Abel also brought an offering—fat portions from some of the **firstborn of his flock**. The Lord looked with favor on Abel and his offering, but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor." (Genesis 4:2-5)

**2.OFFERINGS AFTER THE FLOOD** - "Take with you **seven pairs of every kind of clean animal**, a male and its mate, and one pair of every kind of unclean animal, a male and its mate, and also seven pairs of every kind of bird, male and female, to keep their various kinds alive throughout the earth." (Genesis 7:2-4)

**3.BURNT OFFERING** - "Then Noah built an altar to the Lord and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, **he sacrificed burnt offerings on it**. The Lord smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: "Never again will I curse the ground because of humans, even though every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done." (Genesis 8:20-21)

**4.TITHING** - "Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, and he blessed Abram, saying, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. And praise be to God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand." Then **Abram gave him a tenth of everything**." (Genesis 14:18-20)

**5.BURNT OFFERING PROPHEIC** - "Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. Then God said, "**Take your son, your only son, whom you love— Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.**" (Genesis:22:1-2)

"He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place, 'The Lord Will Provide.'" (Genesis 22:13-14)

**6.TITHING** - "Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will watch over me on this journey I am taking and will give me food to eat and clothes to wear so that I return safely to my father's household, then the Lord will be my God and this stone that I have set up as a pillar will be God's house, and of **all that you give me I will give you a tenth**." (Genesis 28:20-22)

**7.DRINK OFFERING** - "And God said to him, "I am God Almighty; be fruitful and increase in number. A nation and a community of nations will come from you, and kings will be among your descendants. The land I gave to Abraham and Isaac I also give to you, and I will give this land to your descendants after you." Then God went up from him at the place where he had talked with him. **Jacob set up a stone pillar at the place where God had talked with him, and he poured out a drink offering on it; he also poured oil on it.**" (Genesis 35:11-14)

**8.FIRST BORN OFFERING** - "The Lord said to Moses, "Consecrate to me every firstborn male. **The first offspring of every womb among the Israelites belongs to me**, whether human or animal." (Exodus 13:1-2)

For a remembrance how the LORD bought the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt with a mighty hand.

**9.OFFERINGS** - "Then the Lord said to Moses, "Tell the Israelites this: 'You have seen for yourselves that I have spoken to you from heaven: Do not make any gods to be alongside me; do not make for yourselves gods of silver or gods of gold. "**Make an altar of earth for me and sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and fellowship offerings, your sheep and goats and your cattle. Wherever I cause my name to be honored, I will come to you and bless you.**' If you make an altar of stones for me, do not build it with dressed stones, for you will defile it if you use a tool on it. And do not go up to my altar on steps, or your private parts may be exposed." (Exodus 20:22-26)

# THE ART OF GIVING - BE THE BLESSING

The Bible is full of all sorts of creative ways to give, some more obvious than others. Like all of Elohim's plans for our lives, where there is structure, there is also grace. Then there are blessings.

Yehovah has a storehouse of blessings just waiting for Him to give us. He wants to bless us continually, all day, every day. "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this," says the Lord of hosts, "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows." (Malachi 3:10) Being in a relationship means we also have our part to play to receive those blessings. Our role is to put our faith in action.

But what about the times when you have done all that you have been called to do in giving, and the windows of heaven still hasn't opened for you yet? Then you're in a place of expectation, and Elohim steps in. He has you covered! "Therefore, put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, 'to stand!'" (Ephesians 6:13)

You're about to see a miracle because your blessings will not come from anything you or man can do; they will be a supernatural miracle. Like Abraham, who refused to accept the spoils of another man's war, He made an oath to Yehovah that man would not be able to claim they had made him rich. He was faithful to the call that Elohim had for His life, and he was 'blessed to be a blessing.'

Let's go back to the book of Malachai. Have you ever wondered why the last book of the Tanakh was a Q&A session that allows us to stop and reflect and 'get all our ducks in a row,' so to speak? Are we ready to receive everything the Father has for us?

It was as if Yehovah was saying to Israel through Malachi, "I have the promised one, the Messiah, coming very soon, and He is going to break open all of heaven just for you, are you ready??"

When you went through that list, did you recognize any areas of your life that were not in line with how the Father has called us to walk?

I know for me, the last six months, the Father has been working on my heart to give and to give generously with a cheerful heart. Being a single mother in the past with three children, I have always been cautious with everything I own and especially my finances, so that was one wild and crazy ride for me. It felt like Yehovah threw me in the rapids to learn the art of giving. Thankfully, I can say I have come to calm, peaceful waters of acceptance and a willingness to give. And not just because Elohim says we should but because it feels good to share. Yehovah has given me the heart to give, so now I do it because I want to, but I do it more than anything because I love Him, and I want to please Him.

I can't put into words the level of peace that comes from being in the Father's will. The Word says it best, "And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Yeshua HaMachiach." (Philippians 4:7)

And I know what like not to have peace, so for me, I am forever grateful.

So if you have a battle going on inside you right now like I did, recognize that your spirit is willing, but your flesh does not want to die. It's another step in the journey of letting go of 'Egypt' and putting all your trust in Yehovah. Don't listen to the enemy; he is a liar and a thief, and he wants to rob you of all your blessings.

"... and test Me now in this," says the Lord of hosts, "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows." (Malachi 3:10) Trust the One who loves you most!

*Esther*

# THE ART OF GIVING - BE THE BLESSING

## Faith in Action - Hebrews 11

V1. Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

V2. This is what the ancients were commended for.

V3. **By faith** we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

V4. **By faith** Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did

V5. **By faith** Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death

V6. And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

V7. **By faith** Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family.

V8. **By faith** Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

V9. **By faith** he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.

V11. And **by faith** even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise.

V13. All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth.

V16. Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

V17. **By faith** Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice.

V20. **By faith** Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future.

V21. **By faith** Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph's sons, and worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff.

V22. **By faith** Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions concerning the burial of his bones.

V23. **By faith** Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king's edict.

V24. **By faith** Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter.

V27. **By faith** he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible.

V28. **By faith** he kept the Passover and the application of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.

V29. **By faith** the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned.

V30. **By faith** the walls of Jericho fell, after the army had marched around them for seven days.<sup>31</sup>By faith the prostitute

V31. **By faith** Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.

V32. And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah, about David and Samuel and the prophets, V33 who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, V34 quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies.

V35. Women received back their dead, raised to life again. There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection. V36. Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. V37 They were put to death by stoning; they were sawed in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated— V38 the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground.

V39. These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, V40 since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Yeshua, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before Him He endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of Yehovah. Consider Him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart." (Hebrews 12:3)

# THE ART OF GIVING- BE THE BLESSING

**1.GIVING** - "Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you."  
(Matthew 5:42)



**2.GIVING** - "So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you." (Matthew 6:2)

**3.TREASURE** - "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."  
(Matthew 6:19-21)



**4.MASTER** - "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."  
(Matthew 6:24)

**5.WORKERS** - "Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give. Do not get any gold or silver or copper to take with you in your belts— no bag for the journey or extra shirt or sandals or a staff, for the worker is worth his keep "  
(Matthew 10:8-10)

**6.RICH** - "Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'Truly I tell you, it is hard for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.' The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, 'Who then can be saved?' Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with GOD.'  
(Matthew 19:23-27)



**7.INHERITANCE** - "Peter answered him, 'We have left everything to follow you! What then will there be for us?' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.'  
(Matthew 10:27-29)

**8. PHARISEES** - "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former. You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel.  
(Matthew 23:23-24)



**9.DID FOR ME** - "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'  
(Matthew 25:35-36)  
"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'  
(Matthew 25:40)

**10.EVERYTHING** - "Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.'  
(Mark 12:41-44)



**11.MEASURE** - "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."  
(Luke 6:38)

# THE ART OF GIVING - BE THE BLESSING

**12. GREED** - "Someone in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.' Jesus replied, 'Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?' Then he said to them, 'Watch out! Be on your **guard against all kinds of greed**; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.'" (Luke 12:13-15)

**13. TREASURE** - "Then Jesus said to his disciples: 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?'

"Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.'

"Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**"

(Luke 12:22=34)

**14. RESSURRECTION** - "Then Jesus said to his host, 'When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be **repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.**"

(Luke 14:12-14)

**15. CONSIDER** - "Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won't he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. In the same way, those of you **who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.**"

(Luke 14:31-34)

**16. TRUSTWORTHY** - "Whoever can be **trusted with very little can also be trusted with much**, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?"

'No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.'

The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus. He said to them, "You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of others, but God knows your hearts. What people value highly is detestable in God's sight."

(Luke 16:10-14)

**17. SALVATION** - "But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, 'Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.'

Jesus said to him, '**Today salvation has come to this house**, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.'

(Luke 19:8-10)

**18. BLESSED** - "I have not coveted anyone's silver or gold or clothing. You yourselves know that these hands of mine have supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions. In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: '**It is more blessed to give than to receive.**'"

(Acts 20:33-35)

# THE ART OF GIVING - BE THE BLESSING

**19.GIVING** - "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions **to give to anyone who had need**. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." (Acts 2:42-47)

**20.HEALING** - "Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. **In the name of Yeshua Messiah of Nazareth, walk.**" (Acts 3:6)



**21.DOING GOOD** - "In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); **she was always doing good** and helping the poor." (Acts 9:26)  
 "Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them." (Acts 9:39)

**22.TESTIMONY** - "On arriving there, they gathered the assembly together and **reported all that God had done** through them and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles." (Acts 14:27)



**23.HOSPITALITY** - "When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. 'If you consider me a believer in the Lord,' she said, **'come and stay at my house.'** And she persuaded us." (Acts 16:15)

**24.UNITY** - "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. **All the believers were together and had everything in common**. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." (Acts 2:42-47)



**25.GIFTS** - "**We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us**. If your gift is prophesying, then prophecy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully." (Romans 12:6-8)

**26.NEEDS** - "Share with the Lord's people **who are in need**. Practice hospitality." (Romans 12:13)



**27.COLLECTION** - "Now **about the collection for the Lord's people**: Do what I told the Galatian assembly to do. On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made. Then, when I arrive, I will give letters of introduction to the men you approve and send them with your gift to Jerusalem." (1 Corinthians 16:1-3)

**28.COMMANDMENT** - "Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Yeshua our Lord? Are you not the result of my work in the Lord? Even though I may not be an apostle to others, surely I am to you! For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. is my defense to those who sit in judgment on me. Don't we have the right to food and drink? Don't we have the right to take a believing wife along with us, as do the other apostles and the Lord's brothers and Cephas? Or is it only I and Barnabas who lack the right to not work for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat its grapes? Who tends a flock and does not drink the milk? Do I say this merely on human authority? Doesn't the Law say the same thing? For it is written in the Law of Moses: 'Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain.' Is it about oxen that God is concerned? Surely he says this for us, doesn't he? Yes, this was written for us, because whoever plows and threshes should be able to do so in the hope of sharing in the harvest. If we have sown spiritual seed among you, is it too much if we reap a material harvest from you? If others have this right of support from you, shouldn't we have it all the more?"

CONT..

# THE ART OF GIVING - BE THE BLESSING

**28.COMMANDMENT** - CONT..."But we did not use this right. On the contrary, we put up with anything rather than hinder the gospel of Christ.

Don't you know that those who serve in the temple get their food from the temple, and that those who serve at the altar share in what is offered on the altar?

In the same way, **the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel.**

But I have not used any of these rights. And I am not writing this in the hope that you will do such things for me, for I would rather die than allow anyone to deprive me of this boast. For when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, since I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! If I preach voluntarily, I have a reward; if not voluntarily, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me. What then is my reward? Just this: that in preaching the gospel I may offer it free of charge, and so not make full use of my rights as a preacher of the gospel. "

(1 Corinthians 9:1-18)

**29.BENEFICIAL** - "I have the right to do anything," you say—but not everything is beneficial. 'I have the right to do anything'—but not everything is constructive. **No one should seek their own good, but the good of others.**"

(1 Corinthians 10:23)

**30.SERVICE** - "You know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have **devoted themselves to the service** of the Lord's people."

(1 Corinthians 16:15)

**31.EQUALITY** - "And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.

(2 Corinthians 8:1-9)

"And here is my judgment about what is best for you in this matter. Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the desire to do so. Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means. For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have. Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, **but that there might be equality.** At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. The goal is equality, as it is written: "The one who gathered much did not have too much, and the one who gathered little did not have too little."

(2 Corinthians 8:10-15)

**32.CHEERFUL GIVER** - "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 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. As it is written, "They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever."

(2 Corinthians 9:6-9)

**33.GENEROSITY** - "Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and **through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.**

This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else."

(2 Corinthians 9:10-13)

**34.SHARING** - "Each one should test their own actions. Then they can take pride in themselves alone, without comparing themselves to someone else, for each one should carry their own load. **Nevertheless, the one who receives instruction in the word should share all good things with their instructor.**"

(Galatians 6:4-6)

# THE ART OF GIVING - BE THE BLESSING

**35. BELIEVERS** - "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, **especially to those who belong to the family of believers.**" (Galatians 6:9-10)

**36. WORK** - "Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, **that they may have something to share with those in need.**" (Ephesians 4:28)

**37. HUMILITY** - "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. **Rather, in humility value others above yourselves,** not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus." (Phillipians 2:3-5)

**38. GRATITUDE** - "I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one assembly shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need. Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account. I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. **They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God.** And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen" (Phillipians 4:10-20)

**39. LEADERS** - "Now we ask you, brothers and sisters, **to acknowledge those who work hard among you,** who care for you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other." (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13)

**40. DOUBLE HONOUR** - "The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are **worthy of double honor,** especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. For Scripture says, 'Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain,' and 'The worker deserves his wages.'" (1 Timothy 5:17-18)

**41. CONTENTMENT** - "...and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain. **But godliness with contentment is great gain.** For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs." (1 Timothy 6:5-10)

**42. HOPE IN GOD** - "Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to **put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.** Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life." (1 Timothy 6:17-19)

**43. REFLECTION** - "The **hardworking farmer should be the first to receive a share of the crops.** Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this." (2 Timothy 2:6-7)

**44. DO GOOD** - "And **do not forget to do good and to share with others,** for with such sacrifices God is pleased." (Hebrews 13:16)

# TESTIMONY

*I pray this testimony helps someone.*

*My husband has been in and out of hospital since January.*

*We haven't been getting along for years and I dwelt on all the hurts he had done to me. In return, I wasn't really kind to him either.*

*During one of my visits with him, the wife of his roommate was speaking to the nurse. I couldn't see them but could hear them talking. The wife was going on and on how she was getting no time for herself and no sleep. She went on and on about 'I' this and 'I' that.*

*I felt as if I had been slapped in the face.*

*YeHoVaH was speaking to my heart and telling me "Listen, that is how you sound."*

*From that day on my attitude has changed. I have been given a renewed love for my husband and I realized I was giving evil for evil to my husband, not the love of YeHoVaH.*

*Thomasine*

*I heard the voice of God today, it was Yeshua; and it was so clear and the authority in His voice had no shadow of doubt.*

*"The devil comes to steal, kill and destroy"*

*"I am the Bread of Life, no one comes to the Father except through me."*

*"Put on the Helmet of Salvation, Breastplate of Righteousness and the Belt of Truth."*

*With the authority I heard in His voice, He had my full attention and I knew straight away what the problem was.*

*I had been in a situation recently where I was compromising my beliefs. I didn't mean to, it was just one of those times when another believer is involving you in a conversation that is really about them and their life so I was just listening and going along with the flow of the conversation, not really seeing that any of it was my business so I wasn't thinking of the bigger picture spiritually. But somewhere deep inside of me, there was a question but I just ignored it.*

*I realise now, I should of thought more about my answers and learn to trust that still small voice.*

*I did have to make things right and it was a hard lesson to learn but a very good one.*

*Esther*

*Keena Reed Photographer*



## GROWING IN FAITH - MATTHEW 18

<https://inspire-truth.com>

*Bby Hannah-rose Russell*

**Matthew 13:2-9**, "...A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. Whoever has ears, let them hear."

At the end of most sermons, a pastor will end his Sunday service by asking if anyone would like to accept Jesus/Yeshua into their hearts.

After leading them in a simple prayer, church members applaud those who were brave enough to accept their savior into their hearts publicly. In their minds, they have successfully brought people into fellowship with the Father; however, when the moment ends and the last song is sung, everyone begins to make their way to lunch and continue with their day, leaving the people who had just prayed the 'prayer of salvation' wondering to themselves, "So, what's next?"

Opening our eyes to the reality of the Messiah is an awakening experience, but what do we do once we hear the Good News and accept the Messiah as our savior? Our relationship with God might have begun with a simple prayer, but until we lay our lives at Yeshua's feet and welcome him wholly into our lives to guide and speak to us, our roots will not be planted deep enough into the soil.

I hear people proclaim that salvation is a gift from God, and while he has opened his heart to those who desire to follow him and forgives us of all of our sins when we ask, our salvation comes at the cost of the worldly lives we were living. To be a follower of the Messiah and fully embrace the calling he has placed on our hearts, we must not only proclaim that Yeshua is Lord but remove our carnal beings, putting on our new identity in Yeshua. This means turning away from our sinful desires and setting our hearts on the Father. (Galatians 5:16-26)

The call to salvation is so much more than attending church, accepting Yeshua into our hearts, and saying that we believe; but, where are the disciples who will minister the truth to these new believers, sowing them into good, fruitful soil?

The call to salvation is so much more than attending church, accepting Yeshua into our hearts, and saying that we believe; but, where are the disciples who will minister the truth to these new believers, sowing them into good, fruitful soil?



## Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear!

The first step of faith is opening our ears to hear the Word of the Lord. All over the Bible, it speaks about inclining our ears to hear God's Word; but, once we hear the gospel, we must continue to grow and mature, keeping our roots firmly planted in the soil of the Word!

A new believer is like a child in need of guidance. One would never expect a newborn baby to have the ability to fend for itself, so why do we not think the same for those who accept Yeshua?

Maturity comes through discipleship and relationship; however, the growing process never stops! A person needs more than one teaching to lead them into a life of promise. While we must sow the seeds of God wherever we go, we should also be the workers who not only scatter but till, water, and harvest the crop!

### A farmer went out to sow his seed

As Believers in Yeshua, it is our duty to speak the Word of God and disciple people when they begin their walk of faith. God uses us all to sow seeds of his Word into people's lives, but our work is far from done when a person says yes to Yeshua. In fact, it is only the beginning!

### The sun-scorched path

"When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path." **Matthew 13:19**

Speaking to a person about the Bible or Yeshua is a great way to open people's ears to his truth; but, unless a person is ready to hear the Gospel of Truth and have a two-sided conversation, the seed will ultimately be thrown on the sun-scorched path.

Asking the Father to show us who to speak to and what to say gives us spiritual insight to know who has ears ready to hear the Word of God. Many of us have people on our hearts who we want to see saved, but until their ears are opened to understand the love of our Heavenly Father, all we can do is continue to pray for them and show them who our savior is through the testimony of our lives.

### On rocky ground

"The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the Word and at once receives it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the Word, they quickly fall away." **Matthew 13:20-21**

The road to salvation is a rocky path. Unless our roots have taken hold of the soil, the moment persecution or trials come our way; our faith will be uprooted and tossed aside.

One of the statements preachers or other believers say to bring people to Jesus is that the Lord is a loving and accepting God, and being in fellowship with him brings complete freedom, joy, and forgiveness! While these are all true statements, there is no doubt that being a believer opens us up to major attacks from the enemy. Tiptoeing around this reality causes people to hear the truth under false pretense and will lead them to turn away from the joy they have found in the Messiah when the first trial comes their way.

Unless prepared by the farmer, a seed will not be protected from the world's harsh elements, and its root will have nothing to keep it in place when storms come its way.

## Deep in the thorns

“The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful.” Matthew 13:22

Raise your hands if you've ever fallen captive to the thorns of this world? 🙏

The world is an unforgiving place, and we must fight to survive. There is no comfort in the unknown, and the devil uses that worry to fill our minds with reasons why we need to take care of ourselves rather than trusting in the Father. Worry, entertainment, wealth, success, fulfillment, acceptance, comfort, and possessions are just some of the thorns that stifle us from growing and connecting closer to God. There are enough worries and distractions in the world to last us a lifetime, but let me ask you, how often have you seen your doubt or decisions hold you back from the calling God has placed on your heart?

In school, teachers ask us, “What do you want to be when you grow up?” Depending on your age, the answers are usually a profession that obtains success and money. Many of us are raised learning about the importance of finding a path that will bring us enough money to care for our future families, live in a nice home, and have a pension that will keep us comfortable in our retirement years.

For some, life and adventure can wait until retirement, when they have collected enough savings to fulfill the dreams they have had since childhood. However, Yeshua isn't calling us to wait until we have enough money to do what He is asking us to do; He's calling us NOW! I believe that everyone has a purpose, but not everyone will have the faith or courage to follow after that calling.

Those planted in the thorns keep Yeshua at arm's length, proclaiming their faith while continuing to hold onto the worries and cares of this world.

How many years will you remain choked by the thorns before you ask the Father to set you free? There are indeed essentials required to staying alive and healthy in this world, but do you not believe that God will provide and keep you alive while you live in obedience and walk by his leading?

In an era where the world is telling us that being successful is measured by our followers on social media, it is difficult to break the mold and decide on the path based on faith rather than man. Eyes will be watching you as you step out of the status quo and follow the voice of the Holy Spirit; however, whose opinions or thoughts are more important to you, the opinions of this world or God's?



## Growth in the field

“But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the Word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.” **Matthew 13:23**

Being a disciple of Yeshua is not only about asking him to dwell in our hearts; it's also about living by the Spirit, using our time on earth to spread his truth, and following his voice when he calls. Being planted in fruitful soil means that we have the Holy Spirit living in us and rely on Him to direct our footsteps. Our lives are not our own, and while the trials will be many, our faith will not crumble, and Satan will not prevail because our roots are firmly planted in the foundation of the Word and Yeshua!

Growth, faith, and obedience take time to obtain, believe me, so please do not be discouraged if you face a trial and feel your balance shaking. Every day we are growing and learning more about the kingdom of God, and each morning we need to decide if we're going to continue walking by faith. There are many moments in the day where we will falter, but God is patient and willing to teach us if we are open to listening to his instructions.

## The harvest is plenty, but the workers are few

Now is the time to wake up and be the workers in the fields of the earth! We are not called to be watchers and sit on the sidelines, but fighting on the frontline as mentors and stewards to the lost sheep of this world. We cannot do this work alone, and while Yeshua is our ultimate teacher, we should never close the door on the help or challenge of others.

Though the world is shut down during this pandemic, the work continues! We have the amazing advantage of social media and the internet to spread God's Word and be his disciples, so there is no excuse for using this time to sit at home and keep quiet while millions are scared, tired, lost, angry, needy, depressed, and crying out for someone to relieve their pain and suffering. Let us not be people who are looking to gain another notch in their belts; instead, let us pray for those who are lost, and be a listening ear and helper to those who have ears to hear, eyes to see, and hearts that understand the calling God has set on their lives.



# PARTNERSHIP IN MINISTRY

Gottalife Ministries is blessed to have a growing partnership base standing with us. We want to encourage newcomers to consider partnering with BulldozerFaith, monthly or as the Ruach HaKodesh leads.

We have been serving the global community of believers for over 28 years through media, online, and traveling ministry. For us, it is not only about people listening to teachings and attending ministry events but also joining together with other like-minded people to engage in missions. Today, we are connected with a growing group of passionate believers from different nations who desire to gather in one designated online space for prayer and encouragement in the Messiah. This has inspired us to launch Crossing Point Global Community to support the calling the Father has placed on our lives and create an environment for us to unite in faith and purpose.

The positive takeaway from the events of 2020 during the Covid-19 pandemic is that we have enjoyed more frequent interaction and online fellowship. Our daily devotional times have been a great source of encouragement and faith-building as we focus on edifying and supporting many on their daily faith walk. Through BulldozerFaith, get ready for more spiritual growth and consider playing a part in our mission to develop ways to interact and build a strong faith community. Crossing Point's focus is to be a new platform developed within Bulldozerfaith as an outreach tool to share with our families and friends, bringing Yeshua's truth through the Torah and the Gospel of the Kingdom. We will be providing better access for personal ministry, prayer groups, and discipleship training to equip and operate more as a faith community where we can serve each other and function better as the body of Messiah, making a difference in others' lives.

Our direction in outreach is in three steps for ministry growth: friendship, relationship, & partnership.

1. **Friendship** – Outreach through caring for the needs of others and hands-on personal ministry.
2. **Relationship** - When we spend time together around the Word in the presence of Elohim, bringing us all to closer relationships, as a family, being one in the Messiah.
3. **Partnership** - When we establish mutual trust and desire unity together in outreach and fellowship, partnering becomes easy for seeking His Will and being dedicated to giving in time and finances to support the ministry.

We are prayerfully seeking Elohim to bring new partners to join us as the Spirit leads us to continue maintaining the ministry and expanding into the areas of greatest need.

Kenny is available to chat with you if you are considering supporting us in any way, and we thank you for being a part of what Yah is doing through BulldozerFaith. Please send him an email at [kenny@bulldozerfaith.com](mailto:kenny@bulldozerfaith.com), and we look forward to what YHVH has in store for 2021.

To give online please use this link <https://www.bulldozerfaith.com/give> or, if you would like to use PayPal, click here <https://paypal.me/bulldozerfaith>

Send Donation By Post:  
Cheques payable to "Gottalife"

**USA** - Gottalife Ministries, Suit 167, 15105-D John J Delaney Drive, Charlotte, NC 28277  
Cheques payable to "Gottalife"

**UK** - BulldozerFaith C/o Gerry Brown, Lynwood Cottage, Goughs Lane, Bracknell, Berks. RG12 2JR  
01344 488303 Cheques payable to "Gottalife"

**Canada** - Gottalife Ministries, c/o Sheila Lemieux, 462 Maxwell Street, Sarnia, ON, N7T5E5

By Bank Transfer:

**USA - Bank of America**

Account Name: Gottalife,  
Account Number: 237026145877,  
Routing Number: 053000196,  
Swift Code: BOFAUS3N

Giving with **Zelle** - email address [admin@bulldozerfaith.com](mailto:admin@bulldozerfaith.com)

**Canada - Royal Bank**

Gottalife Ministries  
ACCOUNT NUMBER: 1020544  
BRANCH NUMBER: 03232  
SWIFT BIC: ROYCCAT2  
We now also accept e-transfer (Interac Canada)  
Send to email address [kenny@bulldozerfaith.com](mailto:kenny@bulldozerfaith.com) the bank account is Gottalife Ministries

**UK- Bank Barclays Bank**

Account Name: Gottalife,  
Account Number: 33474887,  
Sort Code: 20-39-64  
European Countries in Euros (Including Monaco, Norway, and Switzerland)  
Account Holder: Gottalife Ltd.  
Account number: 1737268  
IBAN: BE62 9671 7372 6861  
BIC: TRWIBEB1XXX  
Address: TransferWise Europe SA, Avenue Louise 54, Room S52, Brussels, 1050 Belgium

**Australia**

Account: Holder Gottalife Ltd.  
Account: Number 915809178  
BSB Code: 802-985  
Address: BNZ (TransferWise), 36-38 Gipps Street, Collingwood 3066 Australia.

**New Zealand**

Account Holder: Gottalife Ltd.  
Account Number: 02-1290-0793452-000  
Address: TransferWise 56 Shoreditch High Street, London E1 6JJ United Kingdom

Email [kenny@bulldozerfaith.com](mailto:kenny@bulldozerfaith.com) letting us know the amount so we can know in advance, thank you!



**THANK  
YOU**

*For being a part of our community!*