

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Pastor Dave Patterson
Part 4 Expect God to Provide

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your small group's goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so knock yourself out with the discussion questions but spend more time laughing than answering the questions.

[Exodus 15:26]

“For I am Jehovah-Rapha” = (The Lord who heals you)

[Matthew 6:31-33]

*“So don't worry about these things saying, ‘What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?’ These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. **Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.**”*

[Proverbs 11:24-25 *The Message*]

***The world of the generous gets larger and larger;
the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller.***

*The one who blesses others is abundantly blessed;
those who help others are helped.*

[Proverbs 11:24 (NLT)]

*Give freely and become more wealthy;
be stingy and lose everything.*

[Deuteronomy 8:18]

*But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who **gives you the ability to produce wealth**, and so confirms his covenant*

Disqualifiers & Qualifiers for provision and prosperity:

- Laziness / Diligent work ethic
- Greed / life style of generosity
- Dishonest business dealings / life of integrity
- Get-rich-quick schemes / long-term thinking, saving and investing

[Proverbs 11:11]

*Wealth from get-rich-quick schemes quickly disappears;
wealth from hard work grows over time.*

Disqualifiers & Qualifiers for provision and prosperity:

- Putting me first / tithing (*the first and best belong to the Lord*)
- Living with financial fear / Faith for finances
- “My Kingdom” mentality / His Kingdom and others mindset

[2 Corinthians 9:6-11]

*Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. You must each decide in your own heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. “For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.” And God will generously provide all you need. **Then you will***

always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.

[2 Corinthians 9:6&11]

*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.*

Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous.

How to live like a farmer

- **Don't eat your seed** by assuming all your seed is for your consumption
- **Expect God to provide more**, not because of need, but because your planting
- **Be patient and faithful** between planting and harvest

How to plant well

- **Give first**
- **Save second (*something*)**
- **Live on the rest**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Have you been living an expectant life? What have you seen as a result of expecting God to do what only He can do?
2. What was the last "God" provision you recall?
3. What happens in your spirit when they start to talk about money at church?
4. Why do you think Jesus spoke so much about our possessions and our income?
5. Do you know anyone who is living a generous life? Is the blessing of God obvious on their life?
6. What are you expecting God to do in your finances?

7. What does it mean to live like a farmer? How can you live like a farmer this week?
8. Pray for each other and ask God, our provider, to open the windows of heaven over your finances and bless you, so you can be a blessing.