

RECEIVING

FASTING 2025

In the journey of faith, receiving may seem like a simple concept, but it is actually a deeply spiritual facet that reflects our relationship with God and our understanding of His Kingdom. We often focus on the nobility of giving, but receiving is equally crucial and reflects an act of faith and humility.

Look, I am coming soon, bringing my reward with me to repay all people according to their deeds.

Revelation 22:12 NLT

Scripture makes it clear that receiving is an integral part of the culture of the Kingdom of heaven. Christ will come to reward us according to our works. The dynamic of receiving is a consequence of giving, and it aligns with divine justice where our actions are recognized and rewarded by the Lord. Receiving is also living by faith.

Understand the dynamics:

Trusting in God to Receive: Many times, resistance to receive arises from a lack of faith. As Hebrews 11:6 indicates, we need faith to please God, believing that He rewards those who seek Him. Receiving is not an act of selfishness, but a recognition of our dependence on God for all things.

The Humility of the Heart: Receiving implies humility. We recognize that our capabilities are not enough; we need God's help and provision. When we refuse to receive, we demonstrate pride and self-sufficiency, interrupting the flow of divine blessing.

Community Life: Giving and Receiving

So two good things will result from this ministry of giving—the needs of the believers in Jerusalem will be met, and they will joyfully express their thanks to God.

2 Corinthians 9:12 NLT

Paul reminds us that generosity (giving) and reception (receiving) work together to glorify God. By giving, we prepare to receive even more to continue blessing others. In this dynamic, the needs of the community are met and gratitude and praise to God is generated.

This cycle of giving and receiving reflects the community of the body of Christ where each member depends on the other for the flow of blessings. We are not alone in our faith; we are part of a greater body that collaborates to manifest the Kingdom of God on earth.

Let's learn to receive

Then the Lord said to Elijah, “Go and live in the village of Zarephath, near the city of Sidon. I have instructed a widow there to feed you.”
1 Kings 17:8-9 NLT

Elijah received God's provision through a poor widow, someone he did not expect to receive from, according to his logical perspective.

One day the girl said to her mistress, “I wish my master would go to see the prophet in Samaria. He would heal him of his leprosy.”

But Naaman became angry and stalked away. “I thought he would certainly come out to meet me!” he said. “I expected him to wave his hand over the leprosy and call on the name of the Lord his God and heal me!”
2 Kings 5:3,11 NLT

Naaman, a man of high position, authority, and reputation, had to humble himself and accept a simple instruction to receive healing. The Story of the Widow of Zarephath and Naaman illustrates how we sometimes have prejudices about who we should receive from or how to receive it.

God often uses the humblest means to provide for our needs, teaching us valuable lessons. By being open to receiving from whatever source God chooses, we demonstrate our humility, faith, and willingness to follow His plan in a wholehearted way.

Receiving is an essential part of our Christian life that strengthens our relationship with God and reflects our faith in His plan. It involves recognizing that we live in an interconnected world, where we are all simultaneously givers and recipients of divine grace. Learn to receive as a manifestation of confidence and humility, and see how God uses you both to bless many and to be blessed in return.



Application

1. Reflect on Blessings: Start writing down the blessings you receive each day, whether big or small. For every blessing received, express gratitude to God and anyone who has been a channel of that blessing. This exercise will help you recognize how God provides for you in unexpected ways, strengthening your heart in humility and gratitude, and aligning you with the divine cycle of giving and receiving.
2. Offer to give, but also prepare your heart to receive. If you are part of a community or church, offer your services while remaining receptive to the blessings that others want to offer you. This way, you will become a channel of distribution and will experience that the more you receive, the more you can give.

Think of something that you need and pray to God for His provision. With willingness in your heart, prepare to receive, whatever means He uses.

Reflection Question

Are there areas in your life where you struggle to receive? How can you fully open yourself to the blessings God desires to give you through others?

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