

How Much More

*“Now to him who is able to do
immeasurably more than all we ask or
imagine, according to his power that
is at work within us ...”*

Ephesians 3:20

Before You Begin

Over the next seven days, we are going to ask God for one thing, from seven directions: more. Not more for its own sake more of Him. More of His Spirit in us, more of His kingdom around us, more of His life flowing through us.

Scripture keeps using this language: “how much more will your Father in heaven give,” “Immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine,” “more are the children of the desolate woman.” Our God is not a God of barely enough. He is the God of more than enough. This week, let Him stretch what you expect of Him.

The journey moves in three movements. Days 1–3 ask for more in us, the Spirit’s power at work in our inner being. Days 4–5 ask for more around us – enlarged tents, multiplied oil, room prepared in faith for what God has promised. Days 6–7 ask for more through us, lives so enriched by God that generosity, work, and worship flow out of them, until His house is filled with glory.

How to S.O.A.P.

Each day follows the same simple rhythm. Grab a journal, find a quiet moment, and take these four steps unhurried.

S – Scripture.

Read the passage slowly, twice if you can, once silently, once aloud. Copy into your journal the verse or phrase that stands out to you.

O – Observation.

Look closely at what the text actually says before deciding what it means. Who is speaking? What words repeat? What surprises you? The short reflection provided each day will help you notice, but write down what you see.

A – Application.

Ask: how is this word calling me to live today, specifically? Use the questions provided and be honest on paper.

P – Prayer.

Pray the passage back to God. Each day’s written prayer is a starting point, not a script. Let the Holy Spirit carry you past it in your own words.

ONE MORE ENCOURAGEMENT

**Don't rush the asking.
Jesus said to keep
asking, keep seeking,
keep knocking. Come
back to the same
requests all week and
watch what God begins
to do in you, around
you, and through you.**

Immeasurably More

The Anchor

S - Scripture

¹⁴ For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. ¹⁶ I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

O - Observation

Paul is on his knees, and his prayer keeps climbing: strength in the inner being by the Spirit, Christ at home in the heart, power to grasp a love too big to grasp, the fullness of God filling a finite life. Then it breaks into praise. God is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine. But don't miss where the "more" happens: "according to his power that is at work within us." Before God does more around us or through us, He does more in us. And notice the prayer is plural, "together with all the Lord's holy people." The immeasurably more is something we grasp together.

Immeasurably More

A - Application

- 1. What have you stopped asking God for because it seemed too big, or too unlikely?
- 2. Paul prays for strength in the “inner being.” Where do you most need the Spirit’s strengthening right now?
- 3. What would change about today if you believed God’s power is already at work within you?

P - Prayer

Father, I kneel before You. Out of Your glorious riches, strengthen me with power through Your Spirit in my inner being. Make my heart a home where Christ dwells. Enlarge my capacity to grasp how wide and long and high and deep Your love is. You are able to do immeasurably more than all I ask or imagine, so I ask for more of You in me. Do what only You can do. To You be glory in the church, and in my life, forever. Amen.

Notes

More In Us

How Much More Will the Father Give

S - Scripture

⁹ “So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

¹¹ “Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? ¹² Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? ¹³ If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

O - Observation

In the original language, these verbs are continuous: keep asking, keep seeking, keep knocking. Jesus grounds the promise not in technique but in the character of the Father, reasoning from the lesser to the greater. If flawed earthly fathers give good gifts, how much more will your Father in heaven give. And notice the gift Jesus lands on: not things, but the Holy Spirit. The greatest “more” God gives is Himself.

A - Application

1. Where has your asking grown timid or infrequent? What would “keep asking” look like this week?
2. When you pray, do you picture God as reluctant or generous? Where did that picture come from?
3. Have you ever simply asked the Father for more of the Holy Spirit? Ask today, and keep asking.

P - Prayer

Father, teach me to ask again. Forgive my small requests, born of a small view of You. You are better than the best father I can imagine. So, I ask, I seek, I knock. And above every other gift, I ask for more of Your Holy Spirit. Fill me afresh today. Amen.

Notes

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More In Us

Rivers, Not Reservoirs

S - Scripture

³⁷ On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. ³⁸ Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.” ³⁹ By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

O - Observation

It is the last and greatest day of a festival built around water, and Jesus stands and shouts an invitation: let anyone who is thirsty come. Thirst is the only qualification. But watch the direction of the water. Whoever comes and drinks doesn't just get filled; rivers of living water flow from within them. John tells us plainly: He meant the Spirit. What God pours in is never meant to pool. The Spirit makes us rivers, not reservoirs. More in us is always meant to become more through us.

A - Application

1. Where are you thirsty right now, and where have you been taking that thirst, other than to Jesus?
2. Is your spiritual life pooling or flowing? Who “downstream” from you needs what God has poured into you?
3. Take one concrete step today to let something God has given you flow toward someone else.

P - Prayer

Jesus, I am thirsty, and I come to You to drink. Fill me until it overflows. Make me a river, not a reservoir. Let what You pour into me reach my family, my neighbors, and my church. Spirit of God, flow from within me today. Amen.

Notes

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More Around Us

Enlarge the Place of Your Tent

S - Scripture

¹ “Sing, barren woman, you who never bore a child; burst into song, shout for joy, you who were never in labor; because more are the children of the desolate woman than of her who has a husband,” says the Lord. ² “Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes. ³ For you will spread out to the right and to the left; your descendants will dispossess nations and settle in their desolate cities.

O - Observation

God commands a barren woman to sing before she holds a child. Then five imperatives in a single breath: enlarge, stretch, do not hold back, lengthen, strengthen. The order is stunning. The enlarging comes before the increase. Faith prepares room for what God has promised before there is visible evidence of it. Notice, too, the double movement: cords lengthened (reach) and stakes strengthened (depth). Expansion without deep anchoring collapses; anchoring that never stretches holds back what God intends to fill.

A - Application

- 1. Where is God asking you to prepare room for something you cannot yet see?
- 2.What does “do not hold back” confront in you: caution, comfort, or a past disappointment?
- 3.Which do you need most in this season: lengthened cords (stretch) or strengthened stakes (depth)? Why?

P - Prayer

Lord, teach me to sing before the answer comes. Enlarge the place of my tent. Stretch my faith, my vision, and my expectation of what You want to do around me: in my home, my church, and my city. I will not hold back. Lengthen my cords and strengthen my stakes, so there is room for all You intend to fill. Amen.

Notes

More Around Us

Bring More Jars

S - Scripture

¹ The wife of a man from the company of the prophets cried out to Elisha, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that he revered the Lord. But now his creditor is coming to take my two boys as his slaves." ² Elisha replied to her, "How can I help you? Tell me, what do you have in your house?" "Your servant has nothing there at all," she said, "except a small jar of olive oil." ³ Elisha said, "Go around and ask all your neighbors for empty jars. Don't ask for just a few." ⁴ Then go inside and shut the door behind you and your sons. Pour oil into all the jars, and as each is filled, put it to one side." ⁵ She left him and shut the door behind her and her sons. They brought the jars to her and she kept pouring. ⁶ When all the jars were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another one." But he replied, "There is not a jar left." Then the oil stopped flowing. ⁷ She went and told the man of God, and he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debts. You and your sons can live on what is left."

O - Observation

The miracle begins with a question: "What do you have in your house?" God's more starts with what is already in hand, a small jar of oil. Then the instruction: "Don't ask for just a few." The oil flowed as long as there were empty jars, and it stopped only when the vessels ran out. The supply was never the limit; the capacity was. Notice also that her neighbors' jars were part of the miracle. Her provision required community. How much God pours is mysteriously connected to how much room we bring Him.

A - Application

1. What “small jar” is already in your house: a gift, resource, or relationship God wants to multiply?
2. If God’s supply is limited only by the vessels we bring, what would “not asking for just a few” look like in your life?
3. Where might your capacity (your time, your expectation, your obedience) be what God wants to enlarge next?

P - Prayer

Lord, You see what is in my house. It doesn't look like much, but it is Yours. I bring You my empty jars, and not just a few. Pour, Lord, until every vessel is full. And give me the faith to keep bringing jars, believing Your supply will outlast my capacity. Amen.

Notes

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More Through Us

Enriched to Be Generous

S - Scripture

⁶ Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ 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. ⁸ 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. ⁹ As it is written: “They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever.” ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ 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.

O - Observation

Paul's logic of generosity runs on purpose clauses. God is able to bless you abundantly. Why? “So that ... you will abound in every good work.” You will be enriched in every way. Why? “So that you can be generous on every occasion.” God's more is never a dead end; it comes to us so it can move through us. Notice the posture, too: decided in the heart, not reluctant, not under compulsion. God loves a cheerful giver. And the harvest of generous sowing is thanksgiving to God. Generosity, done well, ends in worship.

A - Application

- 1. Sowing sparingly or sowing generously. Which honestly describes your current season, with money, time, and encouragement?
- 2. What has God enriched in your life that was never meant to stop with you?
- 3. What would it take for your giving to become cheerful, decided in the heart rather than pressured?

P - Prayer

God, everything I have was first supplied by You, seed to the sower, bread for food. Make me a cheerful giver, decided in my heart, free of reluctance. Enrich me in every way, not so I can hold more, but so more can move through me. Let my life result in someone else's thanksgiving to You. Amen.

Notes

More Through Us

The Glory of This Present House

S - Scripture

¹ On the twenty-first day of the seventh month, the word of the Lord came through the prophet Haggai: ² “Speak to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, to Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people. Ask them, ³ ‘Who of you is left who saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Does it not seem to you like nothing?’ ⁴ But now be strong, Zerubbabel,’ declares the Lord. ‘Be strong, Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all you people of the land,’ declares the Lord, ‘and work. For I am with you,’ declares the Lord Almighty. ⁵ ‘This is what I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt. And my Spirit remains among you. Do not fear.’ ⁶ “This is what the Lord Almighty says: ‘In a little while I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. ⁷ I will shake all nations, and what is desired by all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory,’ says the Lord Almighty. ⁸ ‘The silver is mine and the gold is mine,’ declares the Lord Almighty. ⁹ ‘The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,’ says the Lord Almighty. ‘And in this place I will grant peace,’ declares the Lord Almighty.”

O - Observation

The returned exiles are rebuilding the temple, and those old enough to remember the former one can only see what's missing. It seems “like nothing.” Into that discouragement God speaks: Be strong. Work. I am with you. My Spirit remains among you. Do not fear. Then the promise that reframes everything: “The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house.” God’s best is not behind His people. And “the silver is mine and the gold is mine.” The resources for what God is building were never in question. What He asks of His people is courageous, present-tense obedience.

A - Application

1. Where are you tempted to believe God's best work (in you, or in your church) is in the past?
2. God's word to discouraged builders was "be strong and work." What is He asking you to put your hands to?
3. This week you have asked God for more in you, around you, and through you. What is one commitment you will carry forward from these seven days?

P - Prayer

Lord Almighty, You are the God of greater glory ahead. Forgive my nostalgia and my fear. The silver and the gold are Yours; the work is Yours; the glory will be Yours. So, I will be strong and work, because You are with me and Your Spirit remains among us. Do more in us, around us, and through us than we could ask or imagine. And fill this house with Your glory. Amen.

Notes

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

As You Go

Seven days is a beginning, not an ending. The God who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine is still at work in you, around you, and through you. Keep the journal going. Keep bringing jars. Keep your cords stretching and your stakes deepening. And as our church steps into this next season together, let's be a people who sing before the answer comes, who refuse to ask for just a few, and who believe that the glory of this present house will be greater than the former.

How much more?
Let's find out together.

