**Bible study series: Living in abundance**

# **The practice of abundance – part 2**

Key Scripture: Matthew 6:33 – Seek the Kingdom of God above all else and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need. (NLT)

**Introduction**

Abundance is inside and around us, translating it into its physical and material forms requires intentional practice. It begins by embracing God’s standard (Christ) for abundance, catching a vision from God’s ability, developing an abundance mindset, walking by faith, living in gratitude, and applying wisdom in daily living. These principles are keys in the practice of abundance, and they position us to experience overflow in every area of life.

## **How to practice abundance**

1. **Understanding that generosity releases increase** – Luke 6:38, Proverbs 11:24–25.

* Giving reflects trust in God as the true Source of provision.
* Generosity multiplies resources and keeps you from greed.
* What you release to God and people returns as overflow in ways you cannot imagine.
* Generosity is a seed; sowing guarantees harvest.
* Generosity shifts your mindset from scarcity to abundance.

**Some bible characters that walked in this understanding:**

* The Widow of Zarephath: Her last meal multiplied when she gave to Elijah first. 1 Kings 17:12–16
* The Macedonian Church: Despite poverty, they gave generously, and Paul testified of their abundance. 2 Corinthians 8:2–3

1. **Excellence attracts kings** – Proverbs 22:29, Colossians 3:23.

In Simply Worship Int’l Ministry (SWIM), excellence is defined as paying attention to details which leads to superior performance.

* Excellence is stewardship — doing your work as unto the Lord, not men.
* Paying attention to details distinguishes you from the ordinary.
* Excellence opens doors to kings, opportunities and higher platforms.
* God is glorified when believers serve and work with diligence and quality.
* Excellence is not perfection but consistent superior performance.

**Some bible characters that practiced abundance through excellence:**

* Daniel: Distinguished himself with an excellent spirit (character), and kings favored him. Daniel 6:3
* Joseph: His excellence in interpreting dreams and managing Egypt elevated him to prime minister. Genesis 41:39–41

1. **Renewed thinking creates capacity** – Romans 12:2, Ephesians 3:20

* Your mindset determines your capacity to handle abundance.
* A scarcity mindset limits growth, but renewed thinking expands possibilities.
* God’s Word reshapes thinking to align with His unlimited supply.
* Vision is abundance in seed form — what you see determines what you walk in.
* Renewed thinking makes you not to see problems as problems but as challenges and opportunities.

**Some bible characters whose renewed thinking reflected the practice of abundance:**

* Joshua and Caleb: Saw possibility where others saw defeat. Numbers 14:6–9
* Gideon: He once saw himself as weak and insignificant, but when God redefined him as a “mighty man of valour,” his mindset shifted. This renewed thinking empowered him to rise above fear and walk in his true calling. Judges 6:14–16

1. **Relationships are gateways** – Proverbs 13:20; Ecclesiastes 4:9–10

In the practice of abundance, we must value every relationship God brings our way. No relationship is useless, except those that are toxic. Relationships are gateways and a form of currency (‘relationship currency’), so we must be intentional in how we invest and manage them.

* Right relationships connect you to opportunities and increase.
* Wrong relationships drain and limit you.
* Who you follow determines what follows you.
* God often blesses people through divinely aligned relationships.
* Relationships amplify your values and give an expression or voice to your gifts, talents or skills.

**Some bible characters that practiced and walked in abundance through relationship:**

* Ruth and Naomi: Ruth’s covenant relationship with Naomi positioned her for destiny and abundance. Through Naomi’s guidance, she was joined to Boaz, a wealthy and Godly man. Their son, Obed became the grandfather of David and through this lineage came our Lord Jesus Christ. Ruth 1:16–17
* Jonathan and David: David’s relationship with Jonathan, and Jonathan’s loyalty to him, positioned David for kingship. 1 Samuel 18:3–4.

**Discussion Questions**

1. Why does the Bible connect giving with receiving?
2. In what practical ways can you show diligence in your current work/study?
3. What negative mindsets block Christians from walking in abundance?
4. How can we discern and nurture relationships that lead to increase?
5. Do you have any personal testimony of supernatural intervention due to the act of generosity that you have personally practiced, how did it happened?
6. What do you think personally about abundance – do you think it is within your reach? How well do you currently see abundance? How do you protect your mind to stay in abundance?