

DECREASE FOR INCREASE Part 3 by Ps Larry Elliott

Don't Give Up

Mark 4:8 NKJV "But other seed fell on good ground and yielded a crop that **sprang up, increased** and **produced**: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred."

DON'T GIVE UP

Have you ever marveled at an instant healing or breakthrough someone received?

Perhaps you believed that God would do the same for you.

But now, when things are taking long to manifest, you are tempted to give up.

My friends, when things do not come instantaneously, when we are dealing with the daily struggles of life and it's a grind, we are not to be discouraged.

Jesus let us in on a secret when He shared the parable of the sower. (**Mark 4:3-20**)

The parable of the sower teaches us that once we receive God's Word into our hearts regarding our situation, God's PROVISION (INCREASE) will manifest in progression.

- **sprang up,**
- **increased and**
- **produced**

30...60...and 100...

When we receive our thirtyfold manifestation, it means that 70% of that condition is still there.

But don't give up at thirtyfold because we still feel more pain than relief or there is more problems than solutions!

REALIZE that thirtyfold IS better than before, GIVE THANKS for the progress and KEEP YOUR FAITH ACTIVE even when it's little.

Remember our sixtyfold is coming! Once we receive our sixtyfold manifestation, there is still 40% that is not well. But we are more healed than sick now and we only need to get ready for the hundredfold manifestation!

Continue to GIVE THANKS, ask the Holy Spirit to help you to pray accurately into the situation (Sermon from a few weeks ago).

Today, if you have no INCREASE, start to SOW...

If you have seen only a thirtyfold increase in your situation, don't give up. Keep SOWING

The sixtyfold is coming, then hundredfold INCREASE is on its way to you!

We must Decrease DOUBT and INCREASE our BELIEVING!

Mark 4:9-10 NKJV "And He said to them, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" "But when He was **alone**, those around Him with the twelve asked Him about the parable.



ALONE

When we get ALONE with JESUS we communicate to GOD our DESIRE to know and understand His WORD AND WAYS!

Our struggles are won or lost in the secret places of our SOUL in God's presence, not in full view of the world.

The Spirit of God tugs in me about something and I am compelled to get ALONE with God and fight the battle before Him.

Until I do this, I will lose every time.

The battle may take one minute or one year, but that will often depend on me, not God. However long it takes, I must wrestle with it ALONE before God, and I must resolve to go through the process of SURRENDER and OVERCOMING things INWARDLY before Him.

Nothing has any power over someone who has fought the battle before God and won there.

WHEN we see who we are in Christ and apply His Authority in that area we are struggling, we will always begin to see the Victory.

Maybe at first only gradually, but then from strength to strength.

Then I can go ahead, knowing with certainty that the battle is won.

Get ALONE with God, Cultivate a hunger and desire for HIS PRESENCE do battle before Him (Surrender / Humility), and settle the matter once and for all.

THEN we can go forward giving our best for His glory.

Mark 4:11-12 NKJV And He said to them, "To you it has been given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God; but to those who are outside, all things come in parables, so that 'seeing they may see and not perceive, and hearing they may hear and not understand; lest they should turn, and their sins be forgiven them.' "

God reveals His family secrets to those whose hearts are open, receptive and obedient, while hiding truth from those who reject the light given to them.

💎 **Decrease and remove things that stop me developing a regular consistent time ALONE with JESUS.**

Mark 4:13-14 NKJV "And He said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables? The sower sows the word."

For the CHRIST-FOLLOWER everything hinges on the WORD

SO, what are we sowing into our lives? (Garbage in, Garbage out)



DON'T GIVE UP, KEEP SOWING THE WORD into your life despite your circumstances!

Galatians 6:7-10 NKJV "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith."

How Do We SOW:

In the Kingdom you don't just sow by listening!

1. What you THINK (Our Thought Life)
2. What you SAY (Our Words)
3. What you Do (Our Action's)

All 4 have to be present for there to be a HARVEST!

The foundation and the life we are building all starts and is strengthened and supported by the WORD which we are SOWING into our LIVES.

💎 **Decrease destructive thoughts, negative words and wrong actions by INCREASING (replacing) them with the Word (what God says)**

Let's start to dig into how all this works together towards DECREASE & INCREASE!

Mark 4:15 NKJV "And these are the ones by the wayside where the word is sown. When they hear, Satan comes immediately and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts."

Heart Condition: Wayside

Wayside is a Greek word; hodos and means: a road on which you progress (in other words a road you continuously travel along) as in a route, an act or a mode of action!

👉 Literally it means a course of action we take as a result of **thinking, feeling** and **deciding!**
AND IN THIS CASE doing these three INACCURATELY

The verse describes a person whose

- THINKING IS UNPRODUCTIVE (not Biblical but Worldly or Fleshly and human)
- FEELINGS ARE INAPPROPRIATE AND OUT OF CONTROL (pulled one way and then another on the whim of events).



- DECISIONS ARE ALL MADE FROM THIS **WAYWARD** PLACE (they make more BAD CHOICES than good ones)

THEY HEAR, but they don't RECEIVE, there's NO ROOT AND SO NO INCREASE (FRUIT)

I MUST DECREASE:

- UNPRODUCTIVE THOUGHTS
- INAPPROPRIATE FEELINGS
- POOR DECISIONS

Ephesians 6:17 NKJV "And take the **helmet of salvation**, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the **word of God**;" **Explain this verse**

Mark 4:16-17 NKJV These likewise are the ones sown on stony ground who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with gladness; and they have no root in themselves, and so endure only for a time. Afterward, when tribulation or persecution arises for the word's sake, immediately they stumble.

(KJV: They are OFFENDED)

WHY Does this happen:

No ROOT system = their Christianity is shallow and they have no depth in CHRIST. The Bible says we must be Rooted and grounded in HIS LOVE!

Colossians 2:7 NKJV "rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving."

Rooted: to render firm, to fix, establish, cause a person or a thing to be thoroughly grounded.

Hebrews 13:9 NKJV "Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines. For it is good that the heart be established by grace, not with foods which have not profited those who have been occupied with them."

Colossians 1:23 says: stay in Faith, grounded (rooted) in the hope of the Gospel

STONY PLACES could and does imply "Hard" or "Hardened"

What makes a believers heart HARD:

- Unbelief
- Lack of understanding of the New Covenant
- Sin
- Disobedience
- Unforgiveness



I MUST DECREASE:

- Impatience (being hurried to see a result)
- Unbelief etc (not allowing the WORD to sink in or take root)

Mark 4:18-19 NKJV Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word, and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

I MUST DECREASE:

- Worry and Fear
- Chasing after things
- Wrong desires

The word to me that put it all in perspective (Laurel) eating a meal someone else would take it!!!

Mark 4:20 NKJV But these are the ones sown on good ground, those who hear the word, accept it, and bear fruit: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred.””

Hear, receive and do IT!

Philippians 4:8-9 NKJV “Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.”“The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.”

I MUST INCREASE:

- HEALTHY, FAITH-FILLED, POSITIVE CHRISTLIKE THINKING
- ASSESS AND MANAGE MY FEELINGS OR EMOTIONS
 - a. Take them to God in Prayer
 - b. Be honest with yourself
 - c. Talk to someone (process) or write a letter!
- DO THIS BEFORE MAKING DECISIONS THEN MAKE BETTER CHOICES
- DILIGENTLY Protect my heart from NEGATIVE / DESTRUCTIVE THINGS
- DETERMINE TO NEVER GIVE UP, SOWING THE WORD.

DON'T GIVE UP

Prayer Starter: God, today I give You my all: my hands, my mouth, my mind, my body, my money and my time. Everything I have is Yours. I want to do Your will today.

