

# EXCEEDINGLY ABUNDANTLY

*Ephesians 3:20 (nkjv) Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us.*

## 1. **GOD IS ABLE** ...to Him who **IS ABLE**

God is omnipotent (all powerful).

God cannot act against His own nature.

*“...for He cannot deny Himself.” 2 Timothy 2:13b*

The prayer of faith insists that God is **ABLE** to do whatever He is asked to do that is aligned with His nature and promises.

## 2. **GOD ACTS** ...to Him who is able **TO DO**.

God is willing to use His power on our behalf.

We are to believe that what God promises, He is both able and willing to do on our behalf.

## 3. **GOD ANSWERS**

Paul conveys the staggering dimensions of God's willingness and ability to answer our prayers.

God is able to do *exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think.*

Paul declares that the answer lies in us. Greek word (*dunamis* = *ability or power*) is used twice in *Ephesians 3:20*, once of God and once of us.

*To Him who is able* (God's ability) *to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us* (our ability).

God is working according to the measure of our working!

*“the power that works in us”* must include at least three things.

## 1. Power of **RIGHTEOUSNESS**

*2 Corinthians 5:21 (niv)* God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the *righteousness of God*.

*Hebrews 10:22 (niv)* Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to *cleanse us from a guilty conscience*...

A guilty conscience constantly accuses and condemns, reminding us of our wrong actions, even after we have repented and asked for forgiveness.

When we embrace that we are made righteous through Christ, this then becomes the basis upon which:

- God liberates us from the oppression of sin.
- Silences the accusations of an “guilty conscience”.
- Enables us to pray with certainty that God will welcome and grant our requests.

The power of a right standing relationship with the Lord is part of “*the power that works in us*”.

## **2. Power of the WORD OF GOD**

If we want a powerful prayer life, then we must allow the Word of God to work in us.

*Psalm 1:1-3 (tlb) Oh, the joys of those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers. 2: But they delight in the law of the LORD, meditating on it day and night. 3: They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do.*

**Scriptures strengthen prayer in three ways;**

- i. God’s Word contains many specific promises.

- ii. God's Word gives us a clear picture of who God is.
- iii. God's Word is infused with the life of God.

### **3. Power of the HOLY SPIRIT**

The Word of God and the Holy Spirit are one.

The Ephesians were a people of the Holy Spirit.

*Acts 19:6* When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.

*Ephesians 5:18-19* Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit,<sup>19</sup> speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord,

Paul encourages us to be empowered by the Spirit, and to be led by the Spirit.

*Galatians 5:16-18* So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.<sup>17</sup> For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you

want. <sup>18</sup> *But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.*

We are also encouraged to stir up the gifts and resources of the indwelling Spirit.

*1 Timothy 4:14 Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you.*

*2 Timothy 1:6 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.*

## **Conclusion**

If we unleash the power of righteousness, the power of His Word and the power of the Holy Spirits work in us, then God will work for us and we can expect God to answer our prayers and doing exceedingly abundantly above all that we have dared to ask or even to think!