Ephesians 3: 20–21

"God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us" (MSG).

Other translations put it this way: He can "do above and beyond" or "exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think."

- God has Gifted You Specifically and Uniquely
- You Have Been Appointed by God

John 15:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain

Matthew 18:3–4 (NKJV)

- ³ and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.
 - Do I remain attentive, receptive and childlike to the Lord's voice?
 - So often our complacency and familiarity can rob us of our receptivity and we miss what God has to offer in our relationships and churches

Isaiah 43:15-16,18-19 (NKJV) Declarations

- "I've Done This Before"
- "I've Got This"
- "I'm Going to Do It Again"

New roads take us to new horizons, new possibilities and new opportunities

• Rivers are a source of supply, provision and resource

Ezekiel 47:9, 12 (NKJV)

⁹ And it shall be *that* every living thing that moves, wherever the rivers go, will live. There will be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters go there; for they will be healed, and everything will live wherever the river goes.

¹² Along the bank of the river, on this side and that, will grow all *kinds of* trees used for food; their leaves will not wither, and their fruit will not fail. They will bear fruit every month, because their water flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for medicine."

What flows out of the house of God, the church should also touch dead things and bring them to life

- Rivers have living water
- Their very nature brings constant motion and change

I see this as a picture of the body of Christ in all of our uniqueness and variety of gifts

- Am I planted along the river?
- We will bring healing everywhere we go

Psalm 92:12–14 (NKJV)

¹² The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. ¹³ Those who are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God. ¹⁴ They shall still bear fruit in old age; They shall be fresh and flourishing,

- God is a generational God
- What will your legacy and the generation that follows say about you?
- We must be committed to raising up new leaders
- Fresh and innovative
- Planted in the house of God
- Our floor should be their ceiling

No matter what stage of life you're in, God's not finished with you yet!

Am I Living my Life Ready for Motion and Change?

Mark 2:22 (ESV)

²² And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the wine will burst the skins—and the wine is destroyed, and so are the skins. But new wine is for fresh wineskins."

- Is my relationship with God fresh and vibrant?
- Or have I allowed myself to become stale and brittle?
- Am I flexible for what God wants to do in this season?
- If a wineskin is flexible it can hold the wine that is poured into it
- If it is dried out it will split and spill the contents

Stale religious systems, terminology, and rituals must be replaced with relevant, sometimes untried methods or music to draw a new crowd

The message of the Gospel can never change but our methods must continue changing to reach the culture we are in

- What about you?
- Do you resist change?
- Are you comfortable with the way it has always been?
- Comfortable and at rest

Change, though sometimes scary, leads us into a deeper faith In moments of uncertainty we tend to lean on Him

- We are called to set up the next generation for success
- No matter what season in life we are in, we must keep pushing forward and remain vibrant and expectant

We can never develop the attitude of, "We tried that before and it didn't work"

Acts 13:41 MSG

Watch out, cynics; Look hard - watch your world fall to pieces. I'm doing something right before your eyes That you won't believe, though it's staring you in the face.

- Don't become cynical just because something exceeds your realm of possibilities
- Sometimes our experience can undermine the possibility of God doing something fresh and new

Real People living Real Life with a Real God who has the answers

Colossians 3:3 (NLT)

³ For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God.

We must continually die to ourselves so that others find their life in Christ

- Pouring into the next generation
- Empowering them to lead
- We need to get out of our predictable lives
- If you think Jesus is always predictable, you're wrong

John 4:1-26

- Jesus has an encounter with a Samaritan women
- Jews would typically have nothing to do with a Samaritan

His ministry was constantly unpredictable

- He often angered the religious crowds and astonished His disciples
 - o They couldn't believe He was talking to her
- While the disciples had gone ahead to eat Jesus made an impact on a women that affected her generation

There is nothing typical about following Jesus!

Even though Jesus was regularly doing unpredictable things, He was also incredibly predictable in certain areas of His life

If we are going to live a life that impacts our generation we need to be predictable and resolute in your character and constantly growing in your favor and stature with God

Predictable Qualities to Keep You Fresh and Flourishing

Loyalty and Reliability

Proverbs 3:3-4 The Message (MSG)

³⁻⁴Don't lose your grip on Love and Loyalty. Tie them around your neck; carve their initials on your heart. Earn a reputation for living well in God's eyes and the eyes of the people.

Live in a way that allows people to predict your loyalty

- Be a trustworthy friend
- Don't be constantly moved by changing tides and shifting circumstances of life

Your boss, family and friends need to know that you are reliable

- Predictable in your commitment to do what you said you would do
- Don't be unpredictable when it comes to showing up
- When you're reliable, people know that you can be counted on
- A person that can be called on when adversity or opportunity knocks

Belief

2 Timothy 1:12 (NKJV)

¹² For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

- Do you know what you believe?
- Do you know the foundations of your faith?
- We must be resolute in our beliefs, not chasing wishywashy fads
- We need to be confident in both what and Who we believe in

Hebrews 6:1–2 (NKJV) *The Peril of Not Progressing*

Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary *principles* of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, ² of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

- The Cross, the Resurrection, the Holy Spirit
- We can not allow circumstances to sway our belief
- We must be confident in what we know and ready to share it

Keep Your Word and Your Commitments

Matthew 5:37 (NKJV)

³⁷ But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.' For whatever is more than these is from the evil one.

Is your word better than a contract?

- Be honest and strait forward in your dealings and communication
- Don't give people any room to assume that you're not telling the truth
- Yes means yes, not maybe or perhaps not
- Honesty will propel you forward in your destiny with God

To many people are good starters but poor finishers

- Be a finisher
- We all make resolutions at the beginning of the year but where are we at the end of the year?
- Its not how you start that maters its how you finish

2 Timothy 4:7 (NKJV)

⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

Vision

Acts 2:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ 'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams.

- Realize who and what you are about
- Don't be easily swayed off course or discouraged
- Live with a vision that is attached to the cause of Christ
- No matter your age there is room in the Kingdom for you
- Everyone can make a contribution

The Great Commission doesn't have an age, race, creed or culture attached to it

- He just said, GO!
- People my age are thinking about retirement
- I'm sixty and never felt better!
- The word of God is generational
- Abraham, the Isaac, then Jacob

Psalm 145:4 (HCSB)

⁴One generation will declare Your works to the next and will proclaim Your mighty acts.

- I'm not done declaring yet
- How about you?

God is calling us to posses the land

Deuteronomy 11:11 (NIV)

¹¹ But the land you are crossing the Jordan to take possession of is a land of mountains and valleys that drinks rain from heaven.

- Trish has been seeing the number 11
- Recently we realized this was our 11th year back in TC
- Eleven is the number of transition
- As it is often said, the 11th hour comes right before the start of a new day

God's promise to Israel in Deuteronomy 11:11 was that when they finally made it to the Promised Land, they would transition into a season in which they were under God's continual blessing from the beginning of the year to the end

- Eleven is a very interesting number to study in the Bible
- While we normally refer to it as a symbol of transition
- 11 is also associated with revelation that will help transition us into something new and overdue

Genesis 32

Jacob returns to the land of his inheritance with his 11 sons

- Originally he left because Esau was angry that he *stole his birthright*
- He wrestles the Angel of the Lord and He changes his name

Genesis 35

God speaks to Jacob and tells him that he will prosper, and kings would come from his sons

- Joseph was the 11th son
- His major gift was revelation and he was used by God to transition Israel into a new season of blessing

I want to be a king maker!

Psalm 45:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ Instead of Your fathers shall be Your sons, whom You shall make princes in all the earth.

- We need to be making room for others to grow
- Always have the next generation in mind
- To do that I must continue to stretch and to grow

Living the, Above and Beyond life is as much about leaving a legacy as it is about you

• What will your legacy, and the generations that follow say about you?

"History will be kind to me, for I intend to write it myself."

- Winston Churchill

Deuteronomy 29:29 (NKJV)

²⁹ "The secret *things belong* to the LORD our God, but those *things which are* revealed *belong* to us and to our children forever, that *we* may do all the words of this law.

- Do you want to know all that's been revealed?
- Are you passionate for the things of God
- Are you spiritually alive?
- Vibrant, grace filled, faith filled, welcoming and unjudgmental?
- Do I love God, love people and have a love for life?
- Am I constantly focusing on the Great Commission wherever needed regardless of the cost?
- Youthful in spirit, generous at heart, faith filled?

1 Corinthians 2:9–10 (NKJV)

⁹But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him." ¹⁰But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.

Let's commit to living a life that is alert, active, enthusiastic, and moving forward to access everything God is doing

• Let's live a life that is Above and Beyond all that we can imagine!