

Overflowing

2 Corinthians 3:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

The life of a believer is not meant to be lived from pit to pit

- His desire is for us to live from glory to glory

We should be so full of God that others get blessed from the overflow in our lives

The truth is that right now you are as full of God as you want to be

Four keys to leading a life that is overflowing

Romans 1:21 (NKJV)

²¹ because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

- *They didn't Glorify Him as God*
- *They were unthankful*
- *They became worthless in their thoughts and imaginations*
- *Their foolish hearts became darkened*

To Live a Life That's Overflowing We Must Start to...

- Glorify God
- Be thankful
- Recognize the power of your imagination
- Have a good heart

Depending on how you walk out these steps in your everyday life, you decide whether or not you stay full of God

1 – Glorify God

- Glorify (**Romans 1:21**) – *“to render (or esteem) glorious”*
- Esteem – *“to value, to prize, or to reverence”*

2 – Be Thankful

In order to maintain the things that God does in your life you have got to be a thankful person

- You've got to constantly go back and rehearse your victories and encounters you've had with Him

3 – Recognize the power of your imagination

Romans 8:6 (NKJV)

⁶For to be carnally minded *is* death, but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace.

- You can't react differently than your dominant thought
- You are what you think
- You will be drawn in the direction of the things you think about – your imagination is powerful!

Your life is a combination of...

- The things you've imagined
- The things you believe
- The things you say
- The choices you make

Isaiah 26:3 (NKJV)

³ You will keep *him* in perfect peace, *Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You.*

- Mind – translated “*imagination*” in other parts of the Bible
- When your imagination is stayed on the Lord He will keep you in perfect peace
- Your imagination is your ability to picture something on the inside

Don't just let your mind think about anything, let the Holy Spirit and the word of God guide your imagination

- Don't allow TV, Social Media, and the internet to drive your imagination
- Very few people even know what their imagination is or feel any responsibility for it
- They just let their thoughts run rampant and cause themselves a tremendous amount of trouble

When God asks most people to do something we use our imaginations to come up with all kinds of reasons it won't work

- Our imaginations should produce faith not fear
- What we think on (*imagine*) produces our actions

4 – Have a good heart

Your imagination is dictated by the condition of your heart

Prepare your heart

In **1 Chronicles 29** David takes a 5 billion dollar offering to build the temple

- 1.5 billion from his own personal account
- 3.5 billion spontaneously from the people
 - Willingly, from a loyal heart

1 Chronicles 29:9 (NKJV)

⁹ Then the people rejoiced, for they had offered willingly, because with a loyal heart they had offered willingly to the LORD; and King David also rejoiced greatly.

Then David starts to pray

1 Chronicles 29:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Therefore David blessed the LORD before all the assembly; and David said: “Blessed are You, LORD God of Israel, our Father, forever and ever.

- First, he blesses God
- What had happened was supernatural and he placed value on it and on the one who was responsible
- The first step in preparing our hearts is to place value on God and His manifold blessings!
 - Thankfulness
- It all comes from Him

1 Chronicles 29:14-17 (NKJV)

¹⁴ But who *am* I, and who *are* my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly as this? For all things *come* from You, and of Your own we have given You. ¹⁵ For we *are* aliens and pilgrims before You, as *were* all our fathers; Our days on earth *are* as a shadow, and without hope. ¹⁶ “O LORD our God, all this abundance that we have prepared to build You a house for Your holy name is from Your hand, and *is* all Your own. ¹⁷ I know also, my God, that You test the heart and have pleasure in uprightness. As for me, in the uprightness of my heart I have willingly offered all these *things*; and now with joy I have seen Your people, who are present here to offer willingly to You.

- The Lord examines the heart
- Uprightness – NLT (integrity) “*the state of being whole and undivided*”

1 Chronicles 29:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ O LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, our fathers, keep this forever in the intent of the thoughts of the heart of Your people, and fix their heart toward You.

- Intent – KJV – (imagination)
- Help us to remember you in our imaginations
- Your imagination is the part of you that remembers

Preparing your heart is vital

2 Chronicles 12:14 (KJV 1900)

¹⁴ And he did evil, because he prepared not his heart to seek the LORD.

- We prepare our heart by remembering
- We remember by building altars – a place of worship

It is possible to forget what Jesus has done for you

2 Peter 1:9 (NKJV)

Encouraging them to grow in their relationship with Jesus

⁹For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.

- God has done some awesome things for every one of us
- Your memory is a vital part of your life
- Your imagination is how you remember things

You must use your imagination in a positive way to prepare your heart

2 Peter 1:12 (KJV 1900)

¹²Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know *them*, and be established in the present truth.

- It's not enough to remember once
- We must do it again and again
- Husband – *"I told her I loved her when we got married"*

2 Peter 1:15 (KJV 1900)

¹⁵Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance.

2 Peter 3:1 (KJV 1900)

This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in *both* which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:

- A stirred memory of the faithfulness of God is powerful

The Lord uses us to meet the needs of others and open up doors for ministry when we use our imaginations

God wants us to see ourselves doing something we've never done before

Mark 6:35–37 (NKJV)

³⁵ When the day was now far spent, His disciples came to Him and said, “This is a deserted place, and already the hour *is* late.

³⁶ Send them away, that they may go into the surrounding country and villages and buy themselves bread; for they have nothing to eat.” ³⁷ But He answered and said to them, “You give them something to eat.” And they said to Him, “Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give them *something to eat?*”

- The disciples said, send them away
- The disciples saw the need but they didn't see themselves having the ability to meet it
- We don't see ourselves able to do what Jesus is asking
- Jesus says, “*you give them something to eat*”

Jesus wouldn't have asked them to do something they couldn't do

- They looked in their wallets
- They could have bought enough food
- We always look at our natural resources first
- Jesus wants us to look to our heavenly resources

Faith is appropriating heavens resources to meet earthly needs!

It's all in what we see – Imagination

Mark 6:38–41 (NKJV)

³⁸ But He said to them, “How many loaves do you have? Go and see.” And when they found out they said, “Five, and two fish.”

³⁹ Then He commanded them to make them all sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰ So they sat down in ranks, in hundreds and in fifties. ⁴¹ And when He had taken the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to heaven, blessed and broke the loaves, and gave *them* to His disciples to set before them; and the two fish He divided among *them* all.

- They saw the loaves and the fish
- Jesus saw something else
- “*Looked up*” literally means, to see again
- Jesus saw with heaven’s resources
- It’s the same word translated “*receive sight*” when Jesus healed blind eyes
- He saw again or twice

He saw the resources of heaven and gave the disciples instructions to prepare for the provision

- Do I make plans expecting heavens provision?

Logistically, Jesus must have broken it and given it to the disciples before it was multiplied

- It would have taken too long running back and forth
- The disciples had to take it to the groups to see it multiply
- They had to use faith for the miracle to come to pass

Whatever you have is more than enough

- Prepare your heart and renew your imagination

How do you see yourself?

Romans 8:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

- The same Spirit lives in us
- We just need to “*see twice*” or “*receive sight*”
- We are too busy looking at ourselves and listening to what other people say and think
- We need to look up!

Most Christians have never seen their real self

- Most of us live poor, defeated, depressed lives
- God has already given us everything
- We just haven’t seen it

Use your memory to rehearse your victories

- If you don’t have any, look in the Bible
- If God did it for one He’ll do it for you! – **Acts 10:34**
- Start seeing good things instead of bad
- Start to see yourself succeeding instead of failing

You cannot function contrary to your heart

Your heart is the most important aspect

Proverbs 4:23 (NLT)

²³ Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.

If we would consistently glorify God, be thankful, and use our imagination in a positive way, it would be impossible for us to fail

- It doesn't mean you won't have problems
- They'll come, but you'll succeed

The pressure God puts on the inside is greater than the pressures in life

The problem is, most of us are ignorant to what the word of God says or we're just too lazy to apply it!

- Either we don't see it
- Or we just won't put forth the effort toward it

We just want someone to wave their hand over us

We have got to be people who harness and direct our imaginations in the correct direction

2 Corinthians 10:3–5 (NKJV)

³For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. ⁴For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, ⁵casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.

- We can tear down strongholds, imaginations and high things that come against the knowledge of God
- Bringing our thoughts into obedience to Christ

The battle is internal not external

You're fighting thoughts and imaginations

It's not about behavior modification it's about allowing God to change our heart towards Him, ourselves and others

- Most people are trying to change their actions without allowing their heart to change
- The Bible calls this hypocrisy

Many Christians serve, give and try to live a good life out of fear of punishment

- Our motive and attitude are more important than the things we do
- Your heart attitude is more important than your actions

1 Corinthians 13:3 (NKJV)

³ And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

- Because our motives are wrong we miss the benefit of the action
- God looks on the heart
 - If your heart is right your actions will be too

1 Samuel 16:7 (NKJV)

For *the LORD* does not *see* as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

Matthew 23:25–27 (NKJV)

²⁵ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence. ²⁶ Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also. ²⁷ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead *men’s* bones and all uncleanness.

Most of religion is human operated

- Its according to man’s ideas
- They put all the emphasis on the outward appearance
- As long as we looked cleaned up and act right that’s sufficient
 - Dress the right way, do the right things
 - Put your money in the plate

It’s amazing how much emphasis we put on our actions and ignore the status of our heart

- Man looks on the outward appearance
- God looks on the heart

2 Chronicles 16:9 (NKJV)

⁹ For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of *those* whose heart is loyal to Him.