

Empowering Men and Women

Scripture: **Joshua 15:19**
 1 Samuel 10:26
 Esther 4:14

Joshua 15:19 KJV Who answered, Give me a blessing; for thou hast given me a south land; give me also springs of water. And he gave her the upper springs, and the nether springs.

1 Samuel 10:26 KJV And Saul also went home to Gibeah; and there went with him a band of men, whose hearts God had touched.

Esther 4:14 KJV For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?

Introduction

Three components to stepping into the promise God has for us are contained in these passages. They are:

I. Asking for the blessing

Joshua 15:19 KJV Who answered, **Give me a blessing**; for thou hast given me a south land; give me also springs of water. And he gave her the upper springs, and the nether springs.

- A. She had received the inheritance but needed something more
 - 1. She had received land, but needed water
 - 2. Came to her father for a blessing of water
- B. Just as the water makes the land to flourish, Holy Spirit power makes the church to flourish

Acts 1:8 KJV But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

- 1. The Holy Spirit empowers for success
- 2. This church can only be successful through the power of the Holy Spirit

II. Receiving the divine touch

1 Samuel 10:26 KJV And Saul also went home to Gibeah; and **there went with him a**

band of men, whose hearts God had touched.

- A. Before anyone can step into God's promise, there must be a divine touch
 - 1. God's work cannot be done in one's own ability
 - 2. A God given faith is required
- B. These men had a vision of a kingdom that did not exist

Hebrews 11:10 KJV For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.
- C. Their God given faith allowed them to step into the kingdom

III. Risking to receive the blessing

Esther 4:14 KJV For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and **who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?**

- A. It was a risk for Esther to appear uninvited before the King

Esther 4:16 KJV Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and **if I perish, I perish.**

- B. The 120 take the risk

Acts 1:1 KJV And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

- 1. Over 500 saw Jesus after his resurrection
- 2. Only 120 were left on the Day of Pentecost

- C. The 120 receive the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:4 KJV And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

- 1. The significant occurrence here is not that they spoke with tongues
- 2. What is significant is that they were filled with the Holy Spirit

Conclusion

Are you willing to take the risk to believe and wait on God? Are you willing to act only in the power of the Holy Spirit?