It's Because I Owe Him - Bible Study Lesson

James 1:17 (AMP)

17 Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above; it comes down from the Father of lights [the Creator and Sustainer of the heavens], in whom there is no variation [no rising or setting] or shadow cast by His turning [for He is perfect and never changes].

Mark 8:22-26 (MSG)

22-23 They arrived at Bethsaida. Some people brought a sightless man and begged Jesus to give him a healing touch. Taking him by the hand, he led him out of the village. He put spit in the man's eyes, laid hands on him, and asked, "Do you see anything?"

24-26 He looked up. "I see men. They look like walking trees." So Jesus laid hands on his eyes again. The man looked hard and realized that he had recovered perfect sight, saw everything in bright, twenty-twenty focus. Jesus sent him straight home, telling him, "Don't enter the village."

When we read the stories about Jesus in the Bible, we always find Jesus going from place to place. He can't even enter all the way into cities without people coming up to Him, expecting Him to heal, deliver, or set someone free. It's almost as if they think He's supposed to heal them just because He can. That kind of mentality can creep in and keep us from experiencing God's best for us. God is good because he is good. When we are thankful for the good, we qualify for the perfect. With this in mind, let's examine: It's Because I Owe Him.

Entitled: believing oneself inherently deserving of privileges or special treatment.

Thankful: an expression of gratitude, especially to God without considering merit.

1 Timothy 6:12 (NASB)

12 Fight the good fight of faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called, and you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

It's our faith and not our circumstances that influence our thankfulness. Proof we're thankful for something, is that we use and take care of it. When we're thankful for our bike, we ride it. God has given us a weapon that can cause an immediate turnaround. As a matter of fact, He so well equipped us, that He said we are to "live" by it. **FAITH allows us to please Him, causes promises to be released in our lives, and is the very material that makes up everything we're believing God for.**

1. I exercise my faith to receive what He promised me.

Proverbs 22:6 (AMP)

6 Train up a child in the way he should go [teaching him to seek God's wisdom and will for his abilities and talents], Even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Often, we will be the only Bible someone will ever read. God needs us to be an example of His standard. Contrary to popular belief, God has not changed His standard. His standard and His order create peace in our lives. When we're thankful for His ways, we follow His order. When we follow His order, our families will always appreciate the results.

2. I teach my family to appreciate everything we have.

Ecclesiastes 11:4 (AMP)

4 He who watches the wind [waiting for all conditions to be perfect] will not sow [seed], and he who looks at the clouds will not reap [a harvest].

When we're thankful, our finances are always subject to the direction of God. We can't even be thankful until we know who to thank. We must recognize that we don't have a thing that God didn't give us. That's why He can command and instruct us as to what to do with what He gave. When we're thankful, we realize that finances are just a tool. **THE**

MANUFACTURER HAS PERMISSION TO TELL US HOW TO USE THE TOOL.

3. I use my money to further the works of the Kingdom.

Deuteronomy 28:1-2 (NASB)

28 "Now it shall be, if you diligently obey the Lord your God, being careful to do all His commandments which I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth.

2 All these blessings will come upon you and overtake you if you obey the Lord your God:

Favor is guaranteed to those who qualify through obedience. Thankful people obey God. Favor is not normal. It is the exception to the rule. All throughout the Bible, we see people who were granted uncommon favor. There is a keyword in the scripture. It is "IF." The will of God is not automatic. WE MUST QUALIFY WITH THE "IF."

4. I walk in obedience and experience uncommon favor.

Matthew 18:21-22 (NASB)

21 Then Peter came and said to Him, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?"

22 Jesus *said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

Often, we don't realize that everybody needs forgiveness. Thankful people realize that it's more damaging to them to continue to hold offense against the offender than to let go and move on **THANKFUL PEOPLE REALIZE THAT GOD FORGAVE THEM, SO THEY MUST FORGIVE OTHERS.**

5. I forgive because I'm grateful He forgave me.

When we read the stories about Jesus in the Bible, we always find Jesus going from place to place, healing and setting people free. Entitled people think God owes them. Thankful people realize: **It's Because I Owe Him.**