

Northside

FOURSQUARE CHURCH

Greater Expectations

May 6, 2018 | Pastor Joel Conti

Matthew 7:7

“Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you.”(NLT)

Main Point: You Get what you Expect

3 Steps to increasing your Expectation

1. Study the Word for what's possible

2. Surround yourself with people that are doing what God told you to do

3. Do what you have never done before

Impartation is an Anointing for Service

2 Kings 2:6-14

“Then Elijah said to him, “Please stay here, for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his cloak and rolled it up and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground.

- This is a graduation and an ordination

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you.” And Elisha said, “Please let there be a double portion of your spirit on me.”

- Elisha knows this- He expects double blessing and a double portion

And he said, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so for you, but if you do not see me, it shall not be so.” And as they still went on and talked, behold, chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it and he cried, “My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” And he saw him no more.

Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. And he took up the cloak of Elijah that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. Then he took the cloak of Elijah that had fallen from him and struck the water, saying, “Where is the LORD, the God of

Elijah?” And when he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.”

- **Expectation** leads to **Impartation** which leads to **Activation**
- **Works activate what Faith initiates-** *“Faith without works is dead”*

James 2:21, 22

“Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works”

James 2:19

“You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe”

- You need to WORK OUT YOUR FAITH- *“the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power”* – 1 Cor. 4:20
- You see, the COMFORT ZONE can produce faith
- But a CONSTRUCTION ZONE must produce work

Faith Pulls on a Promise

Mark 5:24b-34

“And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him. And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse. She had heard the reports about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment. For she said, “If I touch even his garments, I will be made well.” And immediately the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her

disease. And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone out from him, immediately turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my garments?" And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing around you, and yet you say, 'Who touched me?'" And he looked around to see who had done it. But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before him and told him the whole truth. And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

- The woman with the issue of blood put a "demand on the power of Jesus."
- I have to ask myself, do I live the kind of life that puts a demand on Jesus?

Word from the Lord: Children, you have been making deposits for years; it's time to make a withdrawal.

- **Works withdraws what Faith deposits.**

Proverbs 3:5-6

“Trust in the Lord and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight”

- Impossible is just a term for what hasn't been seen before
- Miracles are God's way of increasing our expectation

Conclusion:

Are you making a withdrawal on the deposits you have been making?