



# The Faithful Steward

*A Texico Conference Stewardship Publication*

February 2005

## God's Plan of Multiplication

1 Corinthians  
4:2: "Moreover  
it is required in  
stewards, that a  
man be found  
faithful." KJV

WE ARE TO LIVE ON  
THE PLAN OF  
ADDITION, AND AS  
WE DO THIS, GOD  
WILL WORK FOR US  
ON THE PLAN OF  
MULTIPLICATION.  
GRACE AND PEACE  
WILL BE MULTIPLIED  
UNTO US. (RH,  
APRIL 14, 1904)

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George Muller hadn't faced a situation quite like it before. In front of him were 120 orphans, expectantly seated at long dinner tables. But something at this mealtime tested the determination of Muller. On the dinner plates at that table was nothing but crusts of bread. Eager faces looked toward him, as if to say, "What's for dinner? We are hungry!" He didn't even know what to feed these hungry children. The cupboard was bare and the icebox was empty. There was no milk and no money to buy food or drink.

What was George going to do? It did not take long for him to decide. He would do what he had done every other mealtime. He would instruct the children to bow their heads and join him in thanking God for meal they were about to eat. He would praise God for the faithfulness of His provision. And so he did. Muller prayed a simple and direct prayer with a heart full of faith.

When the "amen" was pronounced, the plates still had nothing but bread crusts. The children were still hungry. As the eager starving eyes of the 120 youngsters turned again to the head of the table, a knock sounded at the door. One of boys was sent to answer the door. A moment later, he call out in a loud and exited voice, "Mr. Muller, it's the vegetable man! He's got a lot of stuff for us!"

"Coincidentally," there were many vegetables that would spoil if he didn't do something with them. While the vegetables were being unloaded, another person came to door – the butcher! He had run out of ice at the end of the hot day and faced the possibility of awful, rotting meat. Could the orphanage use it? No sooner had he spoken the words when another "coincidence" occurred. The milkman's wagon pulled up, overloading with milk and dairy products and needing desperately to do something with them!

The starving orphanages had a fantastic banquet that night! It was also a great lesson they learned on how God has a miraculous way to multiply His blessing to individuals of faith. They had seen first hand, how God supplied their needs. God had transformed their measly bread crumbs into the best meal they had ever enjoyed. He had honored their simple faith with a supernatural supply.

God is in the  
multiplication  
business. God wants

to open to us the windows of blessings. As faithful stewards, how can we trust God more fully in our lives? How can we believe God above and beyond our ability, our resources and our strength? In what ways can we trust Him to provide supernaturally on our behalf? God provides for us not in the natural sense, but in the supernatural realm.

By trusting God more fully, He provides for us more completely and abundantly. "Trusting Him explicitly, He provides for us absolutely; and we mustn't be limited by what we see because His ways transcend human understanding."<sup>1</sup> The prophet Isaiah understood this concept when he wrote this about God: "For my ways are not your

<sup>1</sup> Sutherland, Dave and Nowery, Kirk, *The 33 Laws of Stewardship* (Camrillo, CA: New Source Publishing), 2003, page 23.

ways, my thoughts are not your thoughts,' declares the Lord. As the heavens are high higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."<sup>2</sup>

Living for the Lord in faith and trusting Him completely to supply our needs requires confidence, obedience and courage.

That is what happened to the Macedonian churches because "they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability"<sup>3</sup> because they trusted God to supply their needs. They knew if they gave and used their small talent, God would multiply their effort into blessings and bless others in the process.

By giving, they were receiving. And by receiving God's blessing, they were able to give more. "Consistent giving facilities consistent ministry."<sup>4</sup>

And while God enables us to receive wealth, the essential idea is to give our material possessions to obtain a vibrant spiritual prosperity.

God's principle of getting His work done is to take what we have and multiply it supernaturally. We have this principle operating in Scriptures. There is a close connection between giving and discipleship, because the essence of

"However small your talent, God has a place for it. That one talent, wisely used, will accomplish its appointed work. By faithfulness in little duties, we are to work on the plan of addition, and God will work for us on the plan of multiplication." (White, Ellen, Christ's Object Lessons, page 360)

a disciple is that he be like Christ;

<sup>2</sup> Isaiah 55:8,9 (NIV)

<sup>3</sup> 2 Corinthians 8:2,3

<sup>4</sup> The 33 Laws of Stewardship, page 87.

and Christ gave everything – even his life. A giving lifestyle is at the heart of being a disciple. This is God's Miraculous Multiplication Plan. We receive God's blessings to be able to give more.

**The principle of multiplication can be stated this way: When we give what we have to God, He not only multiplies the gift supernaturally, but also uses our example of giving to multiply disciples.**

The more we adhere to the principles of Miraculous Multiplication, the more He will pour out His blessings. God is just waiting to exercise His power though those

**My plan of addition equals God's plan of Multiplication**

who will go "all out" for Him as they learn and put into practice His principles of giving.

God gives us everything that we may do good and help others and receive blessings in return.

The principle here is that God can take whatever we give to him, all that we have, no matter how insignificant it may be, and multiply our gift so that it becomes more than sufficient for His work.

In the Old Testament, the jawbone of a donkey became, under the influence of the Holy Spirit, a weapon in Samson's hand, powerful enough to destroy thousand enemies of God.

Another way of explaining God incredible phenomena is by using the following diagrams on the top right hand corner:

**My Part is to add: Sacrifice/ Effort**

**God's Part Multiplies: Blessings**

This principle is well illustrated with the little boy who gave up his lunch to feed a multitude of people.<sup>5</sup> This gospel story is a demonstration of "divine power;"<sup>6</sup> it is God's plan of miraculous multiplication. No human power could perform such mighty a miracle. Only Jesus could do "these miracles because his humanity was united to divinity."<sup>7</sup>

Jesus commanded that the five barley loaves and two small fishes be brought to Him. He, then directed his disciples to seat the five thousand people in an orderly fashion. Jesus then took the bread and fish, gave thanks and distributed them to the disciples.

As Jesus handed the food to His disciples, the bread and fish miraculously multiplied before their eyes. As they took from the hand of their Lord, they always had a fresh supply to share. In other words, they received to be able to give more.

The lad added effort and sacrifice in giving up the fish and bread. Jesus' part was to multiply the food, satisfy a temporal need and provide a blessing.

Will we live in the plan of addition, so that God can work through us His plan of multiplication?

<sup>5</sup> See John 6:5-13

<sup>6</sup> Ellen White, Ministry of Healing, page 47

<sup>7</sup> Ellen White, General Conference Bulletin, May 17, 1909.