

## Our Sufficiency – Bible study notes

### Introduction

God is in partnership with us to create the new in our world. Since the fall of man in the garden, God has been working on creating a new world. The fall of man corrupted the world and everything in it. But God has a plan of renewal. That new plan is called the kingdom of God.

Please be aware that you are not here by mistake, you are here because God has a plan to make all things new. You are part of that plan. You have a part to play in that plan. It is because of this plan that you should expect some new things, new experiences, new heights, new levels of faith, new levels of glory. It is because of this new plan that you should not believe that you are stuck in the old. He is making all things new.

**Isaiah 42:9 Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I declare; Before they spring forth, I tell you of them.”**

The former things have come to pass. The Lord is declaring new things in your life. Please make sure your focus is not on the old, make sure your focus is on the new thing that God is declaring over you. You might have realities and situations and circumstances around you but... behold, look, God is declaring a new thing over you!

**Zephaniah 3:17 Amplified Bible (AMP) “The Lord your God is in your midst, A Warrior who saves. He will rejoice over you with joy; He will be quiet in His love [making no mention of your past sins], He will rejoice over you with shouts of joy.**

Please tune out of limiting beliefs, tune out of the voice of your teacher who said you wouldn't amount to much, tune out the voice of your mother who consistently called you fat, tune out of the voice of your previous circumstances, because the Lord, the creator of the universe is declaring a new thing over you, the Lord is singing over you. Can you hear Him?

### Our sufficiency

**2 Corinthians 3:4-5 *The Spirit, Not the Letter* And we have such trust through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God,**

When we are in partnership with God, we offer our bodies as vehicles, temples for Him to dwell in. We offer our minds up to be renewed by His Words. We think His thoughts on this partnership. And He supplies the sufficiency.



The word sufficient means the ability or competency to do a thing! God supplies the sufficiency in this partnership. In this partnership with God, we are not competent on our own, we are not able on our own, our sufficiency is of God!

Sometimes when we read this our focus is often on reminding ourselves of our insufficiency, our incompetency, our inability. However the good news is that through your partnership with God, you are competent and able to create the new. So our focus in embarking on the new should always be His ability and His competency. The question is not what you can do. Do question whether you believe that God can do it through you. That's an important question to be able to answer. It's usually easy to believe that God can do something. It's also easy to believe that God can do it through the people we hold in high regard. The struggle is often believing that God can do it through us.

In the book of Zechariah, Zerubbabel and the people were standing on the brink of a new season. The old season of captivity was over. It was time for the new. So Zerubbabel is standing over the ruins of that ancient city, probably wondering how this will be, maybe thinking what on earth am I doing considering this project. Because there is this space between the old and the new. It's that space where you can sense that hope and expectation of the new, but before your eyes all you can see is the remains of the old. So there is always a tension.

Zerubbabel and Joshua are standing over the ruins of the city, probably wondering how they were going to rebuild this, maybe wondering if they had the capacity or even the ability to rebuild this city. But while He is standing over the ruins, God sent them a word through the prophet Zechariah.

**“So he answered and said to me: “This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: ‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ Says the LORD of hosts.”**  
**Zechariah 4:6 NKJV**

What is it that you sense you are on the brink of? What is the new that you see? I understand that it's huge. I understand that you don't have the education for it yet. I understand that you have never been down this way before, but please hear me, this is the Word of the Lord to you, this will not be done by your power nor by your might, but by the Spirit of the Lord. Your sufficiency is of Him!

### **When we misjudge our sufficiency**

In this partnership with God, He supplies the partnership. It is important that we understand this. If we attempt to accomplish the will of God without understanding our role in this partnership, we could end up in the flesh. Here are three things that happen when we misjudge our sufficiency:

## **1. We devalue & dismiss the visions**

One of the things we said about this partnership with God is that we've got to be willing to see what He sees. But sometimes the reason we devalue what we see is because we don't think we have the ability or required competency to manifest what He is showing us.

So God shows you a vision of a ministry he wants you to birth, you get a glimpse of the kind of marriage he wants for you, you get a glimpse of the sector of business he wants you to impact but you consider your skill set, you take an inventory of your competency levels, you consult with your history and all of these things indicate that you don't have what it takes. They tell you, you're too old, you're too young, you are black, you are white, you're too late, you're too broken. Unfortunately many of us end the journey here, we dismiss what we saw, and we start asking God for what He's already given to us! All because we misjudge our sufficiency, our ability!

The reality is that God is not blind. God factored in all of that before he chose to partner with you. He knew about the addiction before He called you. He knew that you couldn't speak well Moses, but it is you He still called! God is not intimidated by your limitations. His strength is made perfect in your weakness. He chooses the foolish things to confound the wise and to ensure that it is clear that He is behind that victory.

## **2. We adopt the wrong identity:**

In Numbers 13, some of the spies misjudged their ability and adopted the identity of a grasshopper! So they returned to the children of Israel and spread fear! - ***“But the other men who had explored the land with him disagreed. “We can’t go up against them! They are stronger than we are!” So they spread this bad report about the land among the Israelites: “The land we travelled through and explored will devour anyone who goes to live there. All the people we saw were huge. We even saw giants there, the descendants of Anak. Next to them we felt like grasshoppers, and that’s what they thought, too!””***

***Numbers 13:31-33 NLT***

The sufficiency of God identifies you as a partner of the highest. It is the sufficiency of God that makes you a warrior, a victor. It is His sufficiency that defines you as more than a conqueror. It is His sufficiency that identifies you as righteous, as accepted, as qualified. We draw our identity from His supply of sufficiency. If we misjudge sufficiency, we misjudge our identity. We see ourselves as grasshoppers when His sufficiency

makes us giant killers! We identify ourselves as the least of the least, when in fact we are deliverers!

Truth is that you are not the least; you are above only. You are not in trouble; your trouble is in trouble. You are children of God. You are God's inheritance. You are joint heirs with Jesus. You are heirs of the world. You are more than a conqueror. Don't accept the identity that your weaknesses and circumstances try to put on you. Accept the identity that you have in Christ Jesus.

### **3. We spread the lie we have believed.**

When we believe a lie to be true, we spread the lie confidently. Most people who put you in a box are usually people who are in a box themselves. Show me a person who doesn't see themselves in a limited way, they will never limit others. Show me a person who is limited in their view of their ability, I will show you a person who takes it upon themselves to limit everyone around them. it's usually people who have believed a lie that spread a lie!

But in this partnership God supplies sufficiency, the ability! In this partnership our sufficiency is of Him! That's the truth!

One of the most efficient things we could do with our lives is to believe God. Our partnership with God depends on our confidence that He supplies all that we need to do all that He wants to do through us. Generations to come will be thankful that we believed in that God is our sufficiency.

What old cycles are you looking to break out of? What new things are you looking to step into? Here are some additional scriptures to remind you of your heavenly father's promise to be your sufficiency.

**Isaiah 66:9 (NKJV) 9 Shall I bring to the time of birth, and not cause delivery?" says the Lord. "Shall I who cause delivery shut up the womb?" says your God.**

**Luke 1:31-35 (NKJV) 31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son and shall call His name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. 33 And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."**

**34 Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" 35 And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.**



**1 Samuel 17:47** And all those assembled here will know that it is not by sword or by spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's, and He will give all of you into our hands."

**2 Chronicles 32:7 – 8** "Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged before the king of Assyria and the vast army with him, for there is a greater One with us than with him. With him is only an arm of flesh, but with us is the LORD our God to help us and to fight our battles." So the people were strengthened by the words of Hezekiah king of Judah.

**Hosea 1:7** Yet I will have compassion on the house of Judah, and I will deliver them--not by bow or sword or war, not by horses and cavalry, but by the LORD their God.

**Hebrews 13:5** Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." So we may boldly say: "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"

**Isaiah 41:10** Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.'