

Pastor George ministered this past Sunday, **“How to increase your capacity to receive.”**

During a time of being quiet and waiting on the Lord, Pastor Keith Moore was asked a question. At that time part of his responsibility at Kenneth Hagin Ministries was to teach the Healing School. He started out by simply helping, and eventually it was turned over to him. (This is called promotion)

“The Lord taught me to get quiet and meditate the Word before those sessions. The result would be a stronger anointing and greater utterance. I would fast my breakfast and lunch on the day designated to the laying on of hands. I would get quiet before the Lord to prepare myself.”

The Lord spoke to my heart; **“Keith, would you like to know how to increase your capacity to receive from Me?”** I said, “Yes, yes and please, yes!”

Our capacity to receive from God is unlimited. However, not everyone is on the same level of receiving. **The limitation is based on our ability to receive.**

James 1:17; (KJV)

“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.”

(AMPC) “Every good gift and every perfect (free, large, full) gift is from above; it comes down from the Father of all [that gives] light, in [the shining of] Whom there can be no variation [rising or setting] or shadow cast by His turning [as in an eclipse].”

We can only enjoy what we have the capacity to receive.

We increase that capacity through **“Cultivating a lifestyle of thanksgiving.”**

Cultivate = To develop a quality or skill.

Lifestyle = What we do every day.

Thanksgiving = Expressions of gratitude and appreciation.

How do we cultivate a lifestyle of thanksgiving that will increase our capacity to receive from God?

Pastor George shared it begins with receiving assistance from others when the Lord sends assistance through other people.

James 1:22; (NKJV)

“Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”

This is the cultivation of a lifestyle, and the increase of capacity which is the result of the Word.

Be Doers of the Word

Ephesians 5:1-4; (KJV)

*“Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given Himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savor. But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: **but rather giving of thanks.**”*

The beginning point is the voicing of your faith for what He has already provided for you (Thanksgiving).

Ephesians 5:17-20;

*“Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; **Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.**”*

Philippians 4:6-7; (KJV)

*“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication **with thanksgiving** let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”*

(AMPC) *“Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything, but in every circumstance and in everything, by prayer and petition (definite requests), with thanksgiving, continue to make your wants known to God.*

7 And God’s peace [shall be yours, that tranquil state of a soul assured of its salvation through Christ, and so fearing nothing from God and being content with its earthly lot of whatever sort that is, that peace] which transcends all understanding shall garrison and mount guard over your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.”

Colossians 2:6-7; (KJV)

*“As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him: Rooted and built up in Him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, **abounding therein with thanksgiving.**”*

This is the Word which is being sown and it will take root.

Hebrews 13:15;

*“By Him therefore let us **offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His name.**”*

Notice continually - it is intentionally happening all the time, first changing you, and then changing the situation around you.

This increases your capacity.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; (AMPC)

“Be happy [in your faith] and rejoice and be glad-hearted continually (always);

17 Be unceasing in prayer [praying perseveringly];

18 Thank [God] in everything [no matter what the circumstances may be, be thankful and give thanks], for this is the will of God for you [who are] in Christ Jesus [the Revealer and Mediator of that will]."

Pastor George shared the following testimony. He said this is a landmark in this ministry. The enemy attacked us with a financial barrier, but we won.

1. Kenneth Copeland Ministries faced a \$6M deficit in the fall of 1989.
2. We were told. "It will take 18 months to two years to recover — if you're even able to survive."
3. I was under a tremendous amount of pressure.
4. Kenneth and Gloria were praying.
5. The Lord led me to gather the staff in December.
6. He instructed us to praise and thank God every day. Thank you Lord - not for the circumstance, but in it. *This was changing things in the spirit even though it wasn't evident in the natural at first.*
7. Something happened when we crossed into 1990.
8. Income was increasing.
9. Our capacity to receive increased the more we thanked God.
10. The TV bill was paid in full on Tuesday, July 10, 1990, at 9:00 am.

2 Corinthians 2:14; (KJV)

*"Now **thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savor of His knowledge by us in every place.**"*

(AMPC) "But thanks be to God, Who in Christ always leads us in triumph [as trophies of Christ's victory] and through us spreads and makes evident the fragrance of the knowledge of God everywhere,"