

God's Process for **Capacity Building**



“Now to Him who is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly more than all that we dare ask or think [infinitely beyond our greatest prayers, hopes, or dreams], according to His power that is at work within us” Ephesians 3:20 AMP

Blessings and prophecy are important parts of the journey of a believer, however an often overlooked but critical aspect of our success in this journey is capacity. Capacity is required to fully actualise what we've been anointed for.

God's capacity is infinite and He is able to do all things, but He works with the capacity we have. When we ask God to bless and enlarge us, we're asking Him to enlarge our capacity so we can contain more of who and what He is. This means that if we don't understand how to increase in capacity, we may go through life never fully achieving all God intends for us.

Capacity isn't imparted or derived, it comes through process and God has a process for enlargement. Our prayer is that as we look at how God enlarges and builds capacity in us, the Holy Spirit will open our understanding and help us recognise and cooperate with His process.



Day 1

Come Up Higher

“Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.” Ephesians 3:20

Capacity can be defined as the maximum power and ability to contain something, carry something, and produce something. Through the power of the Holy Spirit we all have the potential to function at maximum capacity, but many of us have under-utilised capacity. Meaning we're capable of much, much more than the level at which we're currently functioning. How then do we increase the level at which we function?

“Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 3:13-14

Two things are important in coming up higher. One is not being complacent and two is pressing forward. It's said that a person can't look backwards and forwards at the same time. We can only focus on one direction at a time. Paul understood this principle and intentionally decided not to stay focused on the past and what God had done, but to keep looking forward and pressing into what God is doing. No matter how much of God we believe we know there is more. No matter what He's done in/with/through us, there is more. This isn't about more activity or striving in the flesh, but understanding that there's a fullness of God we can experience as we press into knowing Him better.

“... that you may be filled up [throughout your being] to all the fullness of God [so that you may have the richest experience of God's presence in your lives, completely filled and flooded with God Himself].” Ephesians 3:19 AMP

The first step to pressing into God is believing that it's actually possible to live a life filled with the manifest presence of God. What stops us at times is the mindset that there's only so far we can go with Him or only so much He can change in/through us. That thinking stops us from aligning with His process of enlarging us and we unknowingly start resisting Him. So the first step in the process is removing the constraints we've placed on ourselves or God.

Prayer: Lord thank You for not limiting how much of Yourself You're willing to give me. Help me not to limit how much I'm willing to receive of You. Help me remove any negative mindset that has kept me under-utilising the capacity You've made to me. Help me not to be complacent and give me the grace to press into more of You.



Day 2

Training for Reigning

“Now the Lord said to Samuel, “You have mourned long enough for Saul. I have rejected him as king of Israel, so fill your flask with olive oil and go to Bethlehem. Find a man named Jesse who lives there, for I have selected one of his sons to be my king.” 1 Samuel 16:1

“So as David stood there among his brothers, Samuel took the flask of olive oil he had brought and anointed David with the oil. And the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David from that day on. Then Samuel returned to Ramah.” 1 Samuel 16:13

The Lord was actively seeking an alternative to Saul and found David as a replacement. Though David was anointed as Saul's replacement he didn't ascend the throne immediately. Not because he lacked the presence of the Holy Spirit, but because he lacked the capacity at that point to rule Israel. Which means that anointing and capacity aren't the same. Like David there's a process to go through.

“There is a wide-open door for a great work here, although many oppose me.” 1 Corinthians 16:9

“I will drive them out a little at a time until your population has increased enough to take possession of the land.” Exodus 23:30

- The Lord showed us His perspective for capacity building in the journey of the Israelites leaving Egypt and occupying the promised land
- The land God promised to give them was already occupied. This tells us that any land we're going to occupy already has residents that need to be removed.
- The occupants did not leave just because Israel showed up. God Himself said they would be driven out based on Israel's capacity to fill the land. Most times we don't have the requisite character, mindset, skillset required to fully possess what God has given us on day one.
- The strategy for each level of growth will differ. The strategies for leaving Egypt, surviving the wilderness, crossing the Jordan and taking possession of the allotted land were all different. We can't depend on what worked yesterday for tomorrow's battle.
- Sustaining the land involves a big picture mindset. Going back to David, even when he eventually became king, he understood that he needed to prepare his successor to sustain what God had given him.

We will go through each of the processes over the next few days.

Prayer: Lord thank You for showing me that You have a specific process for helping me build capacity and for being committed to guiding me through the process.



Day 3

The Audacity of Belief

“So the Lord made a covenant with Abram that day and said, “I have given this land to your descendants, all the way from the border of Egypt to the great Euphrates River— the land now occupied by the Kenites, Kenizzites, Kadmonites, Hittites, Perizzites, Rephaites, Amorites, Canaanites, Girgashites, and Jebusites.” Genesis 15:18-21

The land God promised to give Israel was already occupied at the time of the promise. Yet God wasn't in any way concerned about this occupancy. As far as He wasn't concerned the land already belonged to Israel. Similar to what we read yesterday where Saul had already been rejected and David was king over Israel. At the time of the promise neither Israel nor David was in physical possession of the promise. But because God can be trusted to keep His word, once He says it, it's already done from His perspective.

“When the Lord your God brings you into the land you are about to enter and occupy, he will clear away many nations ahead of you: the Hittites, Girgashites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites. These seven nations are greater and more numerous than you.” Deuteronomy 7:1

Whenever God calls us into something, there is always a faith requirement to receive the strategy to bring into it manifestation. So even though the land had 7 nations bigger than Israel, the nations were not bigger than God or the resources at His disposal for occupying the territory. This tells us that any land we're going to occupy already has residents that need to be removed. And most times though the residents are seemingly bigger than we are, we have backing that ensures our victory.

“For my angel will go before you and bring you into the land of the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hivites, and Jebusites, so you may live there. And I will destroy them completely.” Exodus 23:23

“We even saw giants there, the descendants of Anak. Next to them we felt like grasshoppers, and that's what they thought, too!” Numbers 13:33

If we don't see the way God sees, we will end up losing what was given to us. Though the Israelites had a direct promise from God, they didn't believe that God would deliver the promise to them. Their disbelief elevated their fear of the people God had already told them He'd destroyed on their behalf. Let's dare to believe God so we can let Him make us all He's already designed.

Prayer: Lord help me grow in my knowledge of You so my faith in Your word will increase. Help me be audacious in my trust in You.



Day 4

Winning against the odds

When the Lord your God brings you into the land you are about to enter and occupy, he will clear away many nations ahead of you: the Hittites, Girgashites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites. These seven nations are greater and more numerous than you.” Deuteronomy 7:1

Israel was to take possession of an expanse of land whose inhabitants were seven nations greater and more numerous than them. The size of the oppositions wasn’t meant to deter them, but to spur them to lean into God for His strategy to overcome them.

“There is a wide-open door for a great work here, although many oppose me.” 1 Corinthians 16:9

“He trains my hands for battle; he strengthens my arm to draw a bronze bow. You have given me your shield of victory. Your right hand supports me; your help has made me great.” Psalms 18:34-35

The presence of opposition doesn’t mean the absence of God in a matter. If anything we know the enemy pays keen attention to what God is interested in and as such we should be ready to tackle opposition as God enlarges us. While we may prefer to just walk easily into greater levels, battle readiness is part of God’s capacity building curriculum.

When God sees that we lack the character, mindset, skillset etc. required to fully possess what He has given us, He may allow us to experience opposition strategically designed to help us build capacity in the areas where we need to grow. For instance if God is taking us to a level where we need to be immune to criticism, He may allow us to go through a period where it seems everything we do is constantly being criticised. The intention isn’t to break us down, but build up our tolerance and ability to see what God is doing even in the midst of the circumstances.

“You drove out the pagan nations by your power and gave all the land to our ancestors. You crushed their enemies and set our ancestors free. They did not conquer the land with their swords; it was not their own strong arm that gave them victory. It was your right hand and strong arm and the blinding light from your face that helped them, for you loved them.” Psalms 44:2-3

As with all things in life, we need discernment to know what is really going on and if the opposition is motivated by God processing us or it’s an attack of the enemy.

Prayer: Lord help me accurately discern the motivation for any opposition I face. Train and strengthen me for the battles I need to fight so I have the capacity needed to possess all You’ve released to me.



Day 5

Travelling Light

“The Lord had said to Abram, “Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father’s family, and go to the land that I will show you. I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others...” Genesis 12:1-2

God’s promise to Abraham wasn’t just for him or his children but for generations he would never meet. God always looks at the big picture and works backwards from there. However, for some of us our perspective doesn’t go beyond the here and now and so we don’t create structures that will help us go the long haul. The structures we require aren’t hidden as the Lord tells us what we really need for our journey.

“After Lot had gone, the Lord said to Abram, “Look as far as you can see in every direction... I am giving all this land, as far as you can see, to you and your descendants as a permanent possession. And I will give you so many descendants that, like the dust of the earth, they cannot be counted!” Genesis 13:14

“...let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.” Hebrews 12:1

God’s instruction to Abraham didn’t include Lot as the Lord clearly said to leave his relatives and father’s family, yet Abraham took Lot with him. After Lot left the Lord showed up to Abraham and again firmed His promise. Which meant that had Lot stayed with him, Abraham may not have fulfilled God’s purpose. Sometimes there are things or people we allow on our journey that are hindering our ability to build capacity and it’s only when we allow the Lord to remove them from our space that we can grow in the right direction. God’s instructions may not appear to make sense at the time but He knows the future and what has the potential to hold us back from receiving all He has for us.

Prayer: Lord please reveal to me the things or people in my life that are weights slowing me down from increasing in capacity. Grant me the grace and wisdom to lay them aside so I can grow by Your help into the fullness of all I’m supposed to be and do all I’m designed to do.

Day 6

Receiving The Strategy For Tomorrow

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.” Proverbs 3:5-6

As we increase in capacity one of the things we will find is that the strategy for each level of growth will differ. Looking at the Israelites we see that the strategies for leaving Egypt, surviving the wilderness, crossing the Jordan and taking possession of the allotted land were all different. This suggests that there's a place for setting experience aside and depending on the Lord for the strategy for now. We can't depend on what worked yesterday for tomorrow's battle because we will encounter what we're yet to have experience in.

“...When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God being carried by the Levitical priests, then you shall set out from where you are and follow it... Do not come near it, so that you may [be able to see the ark and] know the way you are to go, for you have not passed this way before.” Joshua 3:3-4

“It is God who arms me with strength, and makes my way perfect. He makes my feet like the feet of deer, And sets me on my high places. He teaches my hands to make war, So that my arms can bend a bow of bronze.” Psalms 18:32-34

As the Israelites prepared to cross the Jordan the instruction was clear: follow the ark. Following the ark meant the Lord was the one setting the pace and the direction of their movement, leading them as they passed through uncharted territory. God is already in our tomorrow and knows the path we're supposed to take to get there. He knows what we need for the journey and the version we must become to possess the future He's prepared for us. Submitting to the Holy Spirit for guidance helps build our spiritual capacity in the place of prayer as we seek Him daily for direction. It also builds our faith as we trust Him to lead us into the unknown.

Prayer: Lord arm me with strength for the future You've designed for me and perfect my way. Make me surefooted and teach me to battle so I always have the winning strategy. Help me depend on Your training for the now and not depend on what worked in the past.



Day 7

Built to Last

“And the Lord said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him: “Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are—northward, southward, eastward, and westward; for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever.” Genesis 13:14-15

At the time the Lord was speaking to Abraham he had no children and was living in a tent. Yet the Lord was intentionally planting a picture in his mind and heart of possibilities of a future that extended beyond his lifetime to his yet unborn child and generations to come. Abraham was never meant to just have a child, die and be forgotten. He carried within him something that was transferred from generation to generation, causing them to be fruitful.

“They shall still bear fruit in old age; They shall be fresh and flourishing,” Psalms 92:14

Age isn't a hindrance in God's capacity building structure as He's designed us to bear lasting fruit even into old age. Which means whatever He equips us to be and do is built to last. As a painter takes time with a masterpiece, God also takes His time in preparing us as His masterpieces, designed to stand the test of time. Because our impact is to be felt in time and eternity, God doesn't skip steps in His processes of making us who He designed us to be.

“I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message.” John 17:20

“You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.” John 15:16

There was a joy ahead of Jesus that encouraged Him during His earthly ministry, knowing that what He was going to accomplish would impact not just the people in the time of His earthly ministry, but also all who would ever believe in Him. Likewise, when God builds capacity in us, the impact will be felt by generations to come.

Prayer: Lord thank You for showing me that I was created to make lasting impact. Give me a vision of what bearing lasting fruit looks like for me and help me be patient through Your process so that even in old age I remain fresh and flourishing

Day 8

The Faithfulness Factor

“And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.” Jeremiah 29:13

We all have the potential to increase in capacity, but not all of us desire it enough to pay the price. There is a direct correlation between how much we grow and our level of hunger for growth and commitment to the processes of God. The Lord makes it clear that when we commit to Him with all our heart we will find Him and by default we will grow as we do so. One of the areas we grow in is faithfulness.

““Then he ordered, ‘Take the money from this servant, and give it to the one with the ten bags of silver. To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away.” Matthew 25:28-29

We may be tempted to focus on what God is yet to give us, not realising that a key determinant of what comes next is what we do with what we have now. His desire is to give us much more, but God is interested in seeing how we demonstrate faithfulness with what we already have regardless of how small it may seem to us.

“If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won’t be honest with greater responsibilities.” Luke 16:10

As we demonstrate faithfulness in the little things we build capacity to be trusted with more. When we don’t demonstrate faithfulness, we may even lose those things we considered little. As we get to know God better and understand His yardstick for success, we realise that while there may be specific interventions or impartations, God is in the everyday details of life, guiding us, teaching us and building us on a daily basis. In God faithfulness in the small will always lead to growth into bigger areas.

Prayer: Lord help me stay faithful in the seemingly little things. Help me focus on obeying every instruction, knowing that delayed obedience is also disobedience. Let me not lose anything You’ve already given me as I commit to growing in You.



Day 9

Keys to Increasing In Capacity

'The way of the righteous is like the first gleam of dawn, which shines ever brighter until the full light of day.' Proverbs 4:18

By God's design we're supposed to consistently move into greater levels of capacity and shouldn't be stagnated at any stage of our walk with God. There are three key areas we must pay attention to for this to be our reality: prayer, challenging ourselves to grow and thinking like God.

'I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit.' Ephesians 3:16

Prayer is important, but the results we get depend not just on the activity but the content of our prayer. We can't achieve consistent capacity building in our strength alone and need to depend on the unlimited resources the Holy Spirit makes available to us. He's the one that equips us in every area of our life's journey so we don't burn out.

'...but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.' Philippians 3:13-14

Growing must be our focus. If we are satisfied with where we are then we will stay there. But if we know there's much more in Christ then we will press in for more of Him so we can lay hold of all He's made available to us. We need the Holy Spirit to reveal the vastness of the Lord to us so we don't ever feel we've attained all we could in Him.

'For, "Who can know the Lord's thoughts? Who knows enough to teach him?" But we understand these things, for we have the mind of Christ.' 1 Corinthians 2:16

As believers we have the unique privilege of access to the mind of Christ. As we allow the Holy Spirit to transform our thinking to align with Jesus we can see from His perspective and because of that His priorities become ours. When these three are in operation in our lives in partnership with the Holy Spirit, we have the assurance that we will continue to build capacity in every area.

Prayer: Lord thank You for the gift of prayer and the spirit of wisdom and revelation through which I access Your unlimited resources and the grace to always press into more.



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