

The Abundant Life Series #2
Permission To Prosper

John 10:10 King James Version (KJV)

... I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

This is one of the 3 “I Am’s in the gospels.

John 10:10 New Living Translation (NLT)

... My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.

John 10:10 New International Version (NIV)

... I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

If you were to ask Jesus why He came to Earth and why He robed Himself in flesh and died on the cross of Calvary we would expect Him to say,

- To bring salvation.
- To show the way to Heaven
- To forgive sin.

Lots of different reasons that I am sure are all correct.

But according to John 10:10 Jesus answers that question this way.

I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

So we’ve titled this message today...

Permission to Prosper.

King David “Scripture reading”

1 Sam 16:10 Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, The Lord hath not chosen these.

11 And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither.

12 And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the Lord said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he.

13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

(Tell story background)

I don't like putting it this way, but David was considered by his brothers to be the "Runt of the litter".

- He just was not appreciated at all.
- Rudy.

His own father didn't think much of him.

- Never even called him in from the field when Samuel came to anoint one of His sons.
- His father never considered him at all.

But wouldn't you know that God had a plan for David's life.

- When no one else thought He was worth even inviting to the meeting, God had him at the top of His agenda.
- His brothers didn't give David permission to prosper.
- His own father didn't give him permission to prosper.
- But God gave David permission to prosper.

And prosper he did.

- Killed Goliath
- Married Saul's daughter
- Became the favorite king of Israel.
- His son who became king after him was the richest and wisest man in the world.
- All because of the prosperity of David and all that he prepared for him.

David prospered so much, it messed him up for a while.

- But that did not keep God from blessing Him when he got his heart right.
- God had to correct him a few times in his life...
- but by the end of his life, it was easy to say that he had come a mighty long way from tending his father's sheep on the backside of some hill somewhere.

Too many Christians believe that living for God means living defeated lives, in destroyed homes, with no hope of ever rising above the thievery and destruction and death that the enemy has brought into their lives.

I want to tell somebody here today that God is giving you permission to prosper.

- Your potential doesn't have to stay buried.
- Your talent doesn't have to stay hidden.
- Your spiritual condition can improve...
- In fact, it can improve a whole lot.

- In fact, God would like to fill you with His Spirit before you leave this place today.

You may have spent most of your life hidden by the shadow of other people and forgotten by those who should have helped you, but Jesus came to give you Life and that More Abundantly.

- Jesus is giving you permission to prosper.
- In fact He wants you to prosper.

Now I am not preaching what some call the prosperity gospel.

I think you can go too far with that thinking,

- but I also believe that there are some promises in the Word of God that are for us today
- and if we don't recognize that and claim those things, then they will forever be lost to us.

We all know that God had a much better plan for Adam and Eve's existence than what ultimately happened because of their sin.

- God had a much better plan for the world before was told to build the ark than to have to destroy it with a flood.
- His desire for Israel was over and over again to prosper above the other nations and to be victorious over their enemies.

But that's not what happened is it?

- No, and the reason why is because when God was offering to bless them they chose instead to go another direction.

See sometimes, our humanity derails itself.

- We are at times our own worst enemy.

- God is offering so much amazing stuff to us, but instead we dislocate from His promises in our lives and end up very very far from where He wanted to take us.

But someone here needs to know that you don't have to let the Thief into your home or into your life.

- "Resist the Devil and He will Flee"
- You have permission to prosper here today.

You know what the difference was between David being a shepherd boy and a king of a great nation?

- The anointing of God on his life.
- The anointing oil in his life.
- God's influence.
- God's favor.
- God's blessing
- God's protection
- God's blessing.
- Permission to Prosper.

Sitting back there tending those stupid sheep, he may not have thought much of himself.

- Just another shepherd.
- Just another kid with a stick and a bunch of dumb old sheep.

But let the anointing oil be poured out over his head and drip down over his body and man look out.

- He's a giant killer.

- He's someone people are going to write songs about.
- He's going to marry a king's daughter.
- He's going to be king himself.
- He'll destroy the enemies of Israel.
- He'll prepare the place and materials to build the temple of God.

See, I think the devil knew the potential in David's life.

- I think that's why he had him pinned down tending his father's sheep.
- That's why he stirred up contention against David from his brothers and even his own father.
- He knew if the anointing ever got on this kid's head, that Giants were going to fall to their knees and the enemy of Israel was going to run like scattered dogs.

Someone here today needs to understand that the reason the devil fights you so much is because he's afraid of what will happen if you ever get up under the anointing of God's potential in your life.

I'm going to say it.

God wants you to prosper Spiritually.

- Acts Chapter 2 is for you.
- You can have the Holy Ghost.
- No doubt about it.
- God wants to fill you with His Spirit just like He did those believers in Jerusalem
- and just like He did the believers in Samaria,

- and just like He did at Cornelius house
- and just like He did John's disciples on the road to
- You have permission to receive the Holy Ghost.

And God wants your marriage to prosper.

- I know there's been some stuff happen.
- I know things have been said that hurt like crazy.
- I know there is mistrust and bitterness,
- But you need to know that God loves you.
- And he loves your spouse
- And if you have them, He loves your kids
- And He has some really amazing stuff available for your marriage if only you'd let His anointing touch your marriage.
- Jesus came to give you Life more abundantly and that includes your marriage today.
- You may not see much hope.
- Others may not see much hope,
- but God put His blessing on your marriage a long time ago and He hasn't lifted off.
- There is hope.
- In fact there is great hope.
- Abundant hope.
- Your marriage has God's permission to prosper.

And God wants to bless your finances.

- Pressed down,

- Shaken together,
- Running over.

Some people think it's their lot in life to be poor.

- I don't believe that.
- The reason some people are poor is because they are lazy.
- Ignorance
- Disability
- Lack of opportunity
- Race
- Sex
- Age
- Neighborhood you grew up in
- Neighborhood you live in right now
- Never stopped anyone from being blessed financially.

The only thing stopping you from succeeding at what you want to do in a career or a job or a business is you to stop trying.

- Be the little train that could.
- You have God's favor.
- You have God's blessing.
- You're part of His family now.
- Our Heavenly Father gives good gifts to His children.
- You don't have to stay in your situation
- You have permission to prosper.

And God wants to Bless your Witness to Others!

- You know what Jesus told that demoniac of Gaddereen?
- “Go and tell other people what I did for you here today.”
- That demoniac was the first evangelist found in the New Testament.

You think because you’ve made mistakes that God can’t use you?

- You think because so much has gone wrong in your life that you can’t be a blessing to others?
- You think that because Life has gone so wrong that your Testimony won’t make a difference?
- You have permission to prosper!

You can make a difference in your home and in your neighborhood and on you job and in your school.

- God wants to use you to change somebody else’s life.
- God wants to use your life as an example to the world of what He meant when He said I am come to give life and that more abundantly.

We just need to get up under the anointing oil.

- We just need to let His word get down into our hearts to where it’s promised can take root and abundance can begin to grow in our minds first and then into our lives.

You have Permission to Prosper in your walk with God.

- Peter was just a fisherman.
- Paul was a murderer of Christians.
- Matthew was a much hated tax collector.

- John was just some young kid that no one thought much of...
- But Jesus gave them Permission to Prosper.
- He came to give them Life More Abundantly
- And as a result their walk with God went berserk!
 - You see them laying hands on sick people and them being healed.
 - You see them telling the lame man at the Gate Beautiful, In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, Rise up and Walk. And the lame man got up and walked and danced and Praise God!
 - Miracles of every kind happened in these men's lives because Jesus came to give them Life and that more abundantly and guess what they did... They chose Life and that more abundantly.
- They chose to prosper when the thief tried to kill them
- They chose to prosper when the thief tried to steal from them
- They chose to prosper when the thief tried to destroy them

Sure there were times they could have thrown in the towel.

- But they chose Abundant Life instead.
- Sure they could have given up.
- But they chose to prosper instead.

See you can either let the stuff of life destroy who you are and kill the God given potential that is inside of you or you can choose Abundant Life.

I'm sure David was confused when he showed up to stand before Samuel that day.

- I'm sure he really didn't understand all that was about to happen.
- But he was obedient to God's call on his life.
- When the old man raised that picture of oil, David stood still.
- That's what the Bible tells us to do,
- "Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord."

He didn't run off afraid of the oil.

- He didn't get upset because his hair was getting oil poured all over it.
- They didn't have to hold him down.
- In fact, even though he didn't understand what was going on, I'm believe there was a little something inside of David that said, "I've been waiting on this for a long time." "I've needed this anointing in my life for as long as I've been alive."

As that anointing poured out over his life, a confidence came over that boy.

- A peace of God came over him.
- Courage came into his heart.
- Faith came into his heart.
- Abundance began to happen.

Are you ready to come under the anointing?

- Are you ready to let God's Spirit fill you today to over flowing?
- Are you ready to let God have His way in your life so you can experience Abundant Life?

