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WORD

"Enlarge the place of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; do not hold back; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes. For you will spread abroad to the right and to the left, and your offspring will possess the nations and will people the desolate cities."

Isaiah 54:2-3 (ESV)

REFLECTION

- 1. Community-Minded Expansion: God calls His people to expand, not only for personal gain but to bless those around them. Consider how your everyday actions and connections could prepare you to influence and bring life to your community.
- 2. Breaking Comfort Zones: "Do not hold back" is a bold command. Reflect on areas where comfort or routine might limit your ability to impact others. What might "not holding back" look like in daily actions, conversations, and relationships?
- 3. Impacting Generations: God's vision for expansion extends beyond individuals to future generations. Who around you might benefit from the legacy of your growth, such as family, friends, mentees, or neighbors?

Practical Steps For Everyday Expansion In Brisbane:

1. Engage in Local Community Service:

- Volunteer with organizations addressing Brisbane's unique needs, such as food banks, youth outreach programs, or First Nations initiatives.
- Commit to a regular volunteer shift that allows you to develop relationships and strengthen your sense of shared purpose in the community.

2. Build Bridges Across Cultures:

- Brisbane is rich in diversity; connect with people from different cultural backgrounds. Attend local cultural festivals, community events, or multicultural church services.
- Seek to develop friendships with people of various backgrounds, learning about their experiences and perspectives. This expansion can stretch your understanding of God's work in diverse cultures.

3. Use Your Everyday Spaces for Connection:

- Open up your home, even in small ways. Host a coffee gathering, Bible study, or simply invite neighbors for a meal to create space for relationships.
- Join or start a local life group in a park, café, or community center.
 Creating intentional spaces to talk about faith, life, and community concerns can be transformative.

4. Focus on Mentorship and Teaching:

- Dedicate time to mentoring younger people in your church, workplace, or community. This could involve a structured mentoring program or simply connecting over coffee regularly.
- Offer practical support, wisdom, and encouragement to help them grow in faith and life skills, planting seeds that will grow over time.

5. Speak Life into Your Workplace:

- Look for ways to bring encouragement and prayer into your workplace.
 Being open about your faith and offering to pray for coworkers' needs (when appropriate) can have a significant impact.
- Bring Christ-like compassion to interactions at work. By being dependable, encouraging, and supportive, you can create a culture where others feel valued and inspired to do the same.

6. Practice Intentional Generosity:

- Start a "generosity fund" for spontaneous giving—whether it's paying for someone's groceries, supporting a local initiative, or helping a neighbor in need. Giving generously opens doors for God's love to reach others.
- Make a list of local causes, churches, or charities that align with your values and prayerfully consider supporting one. Partnering with others financially and in prayer can multiply the impact.

7. Pray for Brisbane's Expansion and Flourishing:

- Create a regular habit of praying for your city's leaders, communities, and churches. Pray for wisdom, unity, and growth in ways that reflect God's kingdom value
- Walk through different neighborhoods, praying as you go for God's peace, provision, and transformation in each place.

NOTES



WORD

"Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

Ephesians 3:20-21 (ESV)

REFLECTION

- 1. Consider the Limitless Nature of God's Power: This passage speaks of God's ability to go beyond what we can even ask or imagine. Reflect on areas in your life where your thinking may be limited by past experiences, fears, or self-doubt. What new ways could you envision God's abundance in these areas if you fully embraced His limitless nature?
- 2. Reflect on Imagination as a Gift: God has given us the ability to dream and imagine. How can you use this gift to envision possibilities for God's work in your life and community? What would it look like if you dared to dream bigger and align those dreams with God's purposes?

Practical Steps:

- 1. Dream Big and Document: Take 10 minutes to write down one or two "impossible" dreams that align with your faith, family, career, or ministry. Imagine these dreams unfolding without any limits, trusting God to exceed them. Document what these expanded dreams look like.
- 2. Take One Bold Step: Identify a step of faith that pushes beyond your usual thinking. It could be starting a new initiative, reaching out to someone for mentorship, or taking time to pursue something you've set aside. Write it down and take action, knowing that God is able to do even more than you can imagine through this step.

By focusing on expanding your thinking and imagination, this day encourages you to view your life, faith, and purpose through a lens of God's unlimited potential, prompting you to dream bigger and trust Him for "far more abundantly" than you could ever ask or imagine.

NOTES

WORD

"Jabez called upon the God of Israel, saying, 'Oh that you would bless me and enlarge my border, and that your hand might be with me, and that you would keep me from harm so that it might not bring me pain!' And God granted what he asked."

1 Chronicles 4:10 (ESV)

REFLECTION

- 1. Consider Jabez's boldness in asking God to enlarge his territory. What does it mean to you to ask God for expansion in your life (spiritually, relationally, or in your influence)?
- 2. Reflect on the importance of God's "hand" with Jabez. In what ways do you need to lean on God's guidance and protection as you seek expansion
- 3. How does this passage challenge any current limits you've set on your own growth or impact? Where might God be prompting you to ask for more?

Practical Steps:

- 1. Write a Prayer of Expansion: Document a prayer inspired by Jabez's prayer, asking God to expand specific areas of your life, be it relationships, spiritual insight, ministry impact, or personal growth.
- 2. Identify Three Areas for Growth: List three areas in your life where you believe God is inviting you to seek His help for expansion. Reflect on specific ways you could be a blessing in these areas.
- **3.** Take a Step Toward Obedience: Identify one small, actionable step you can take today toward faithfulness in one of these areas. Record it and commit to taking action.