



message four: PROVISION

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Today, we come to the final message in this series for this season in the life of our church. We have talked about **passion, purpose, and plan**. Today, we turn our thoughts toward **provision**. The questions that must be addressed are "How will this be done? Where will the resources come from?"

GOD HAS PROVIDED

Genesis 22:14, *Abraham named that place The LORD Provides.*
(ncv)

Jehovah Jireh is one of the "Redemptive Names" of God.

It means, "God has seen **before** and has already made **provision**."

God never gives **vision** without **provision**.

God provided the provision for the building of the Tabernacle.

Exodus 3:21-22, *I will make the Egyptians favorably disposed toward this people, so that when you leave you will not go empty-handed. Every woman is to ask her neighbor and any woman living in her house for articles of silver and gold and for clothing...And so you will plunder the Egyptians.*
(niv)

We will accomplish the vision God has given us with **God's resources** that he has already provided.

GOD CALLS FOR SURRENDER

The call of God is for the surrender of our **whole** heart and will to him.

The surrendered life is a **consecrated** life.

"A life **set apart** for God."

Giving to fulfill a vision from God is not a **fund raising** effort. It is a renewed call to **consecration**.

1 Chronicles 29:3-5, I have much gold and silver and I give it to the house of my God...I gave gold weighing as much as 220,000 pounds. I gave fine silver weighing as much as 520,000 pounds...Now who is willing to give himself and be set apart today to the Lord. (nlt)

David's prayer of surrender is one of the most powerful prayers in the Bible about consecration, surrender, and resources.

1 Chronicles 29:11-16, Greatness, power, splendor, glory, and majesty are yours, LORD, because everything in heaven and on earth is yours. The kingdom is yours, LORD, and you are honored as head of all things. Riches and honor are in front of you. You rule everything. You hold power and strength in your hands, and you can make anyone great and strong. Our God, we thank you and praise your wonderful name. But who am I and who are my people that you enable us to give so generously? Everything comes from you. We give you only what has come from your hands...Our days are as fleeting as shadows on the ground...LORD, our God, all this wealth that we gathered to build a temple for your holy name is from you. All of it is yours. (gw)

AN EXAMPLE OF PEOPLE WHO “GOT IT”

2 Corinthians 8:1-7, We want you to know about the grace God gave the churches in Macedonia. They have been tested by great troubles, and they are very poor. But they gave much because of their great joy. I can tell you that they gave as much as they were able and even more than they could afford. No one told them to do it. They pleaded with us to let them share in this service for God's people. They gave in a way we did not expect: They first gave themselves to the Lord and then to us. This is what God wants...You are rich in everything—in faith, in speaking, in knowledge, in truly wanting to help, and in the love you learned from us. In the same way, be strong also in the grace of giving. (ncv)

Key points from the Christians in Macedonia:

Generosity is a movement of grace.

Generosity does not depend on prosperity.

Generosity is not limited by our ability.

Generosity is a privilege.