



# Sukdulang Biyaya!

EXABABALL GRACE

FCI Faith Group Program

September 29, 2024

## GOD IS MY REWARD (BY ZACH BUNYE)

- **Genesis 15:1** – After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, saying, “Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward.”
- God Himself was Abram’s reward.
- Reward is a thing given in recognition of one's service, effort, or achievement.
- **Genesis 14:21-23** – Abram won against 5 kings with 300 servants (not soldiers). He did not get the spoils of war because he swore to the Lord.
- Reward was first mentioned in **Genesis 15:1**.
- Why was Abram rewarded? Because Abram chose God over worldly riches/things. He chose to believe in God rather than receiving the things of this world.
- **Genesis 15:2-7** – After receiving God as his Reward, God promised Abram that he will be a father, and he will have an heir.
- In **Genesis 17**, God blesses Abram and changes his name into Abraham meaning Father of multitudes and he became a father of many nations.
- Because Abram made the choice to choose God over worldly riches, God has blessed him over and over again.
- Abram chose God over everything.
- When we choose God, life is there. *Kung hindi Diyos ang nagbigay niyan*, it will lead you to destruction.
- God is the Gift that keeps on giving.
- God rewards those who choose Him.
- How does this apply to us? **Galatians 3:29** – Are you in Christ Jesus? Then you are Abraham’s seed or descendant, *at tagapagmana tayo*. We inherited God as our reward!
- How did we get access to this reward? **Hebrews 11:6** – We must have faith in God and diligently seek Him out! We seek Him out in whatever trouble or situation we are facing.
- The Reward that God gives is different from salvation.
- Salvation is a free gift from God. (**Ephesians 2:8**)
- Heaven is a Gift – Heaven is not the reward. Heaven is not even the goal of Christianity. Heaven is just the welcoming gift of God for us.
- The goal of Christianity is not about getting to heaven then enjoy-enjoy *lang*. The goal of Christianity is about following and growing closer to God in this life. To know more about Him and His love for us.
- What we are doing now is just our practice for what we are going to do in eternity with God.
- Christianity is not simply an insurance plan. Heaven is not just the pearly white gates and the streets of gold. Heaven is not about the location.
- Jesus describes heaven in **John 17:3** – Heaven is an eternal relationship with God.
- Ex. Prodigal son – *Bumalik siya* for food and place to stay *pero* welcoming gift *niya lang yan*. His reward was his relationship with his father. What made him stay was the goodness of his father. His father showed him grace.
- **Romans 2:4** – The goodness of God leads you to repentance.

- How do you know you are maturing and getting in a deeper relationship with God? You know you are maturing as a Christian when you stop doing things because of what they can produce and start doing them because you believe it is right. *Pag hindi mo na kailangan ng incentive to do what God said.*
- How about we start doing these things because we already have the reward? Because we already have God!
- God wants to bless us but that blessing/stuff is just extra.
- It is God's good pleasure to bless you.
- Blessings is a result but it should not be your reason for relationship.
- Declare: "I already have Jesus Christ in me."
- Jesus sacrifice at the cross is already more than enough. *Pero sobrang mahal Niya tayo, gusto Niya pa tayong i-bless!*
- **Ephesians 1:3** – God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing.
- God doesn't owe us anything. *Walang utang ang Diyos sa atin* and yet He still gave us His Son and has given us an inheritance we don't deserve.
- We cannot earn or merit His forgiveness. *Binigay sa atin* because He is a gracious God.
- Once we understand that God is our exceedingly great reward, we will always be satisfied.
- Then our attitude will change when it comes to our works. Instead of "I'm doing this for God," it will become "I'm doing this because of God."
- Declare: "I already have the Reward!"
- It is important that we are aware that God is our Reward *para hindi tayo matulad sa older brother ng prodigal son.*
- **Luke 15:28-31** – *Hindi niya nakita na* being with his father was already his reward. He has taken the blessing for granted. *Nakita niya lang ang mga works na ginawa niya. Naging self-righteous siya.* Feeling *niya* his father owes him something.
- We have to be very careful that we don't fall into this thinking that God owes us something because we are doing good works in His name.
- **Ephesians 2:10** – We cannot boast, even the good works that we are doing, it is God who prepared it for us. *Nilalakaran lang natin.*

*God is our exceedingly great Reward.  
 He is the Gift that keeps on giving.  
 And He rewards those who choose Him.  
 We access this reward by having faith in Him  
 and diligently seeking Him out.  
 Once we understand that God is our exceedingly great  
 reward, we will always be satisfied.  
 Instead of "I'm doing this for God,"  
 it will become "I'm doing this because of God."  
 Declare: "I already have God! He is my Reward!"*