

X Factor | Unlocking the Secrets of Multiplication

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In the spirit, multiplication is not “more addition”; it is an altogether different mindset.

Definition of Multiplication:

When what you’ve been working for starts working for you.

Mark 4

1 Once again Jesus began teaching by the lakeshore. A very large crowd soon gathered around him, so he got into a boat. Then he sat in the boat while all the people remained on the shore.

2 He taught them by telling many stories in the form of parables, such as this one:

3 “Listen! A farmer went out to plant some seed. 4 As he scattered it across his field, some of the seed fell on a footpath, and the birds came and ate it. 5 Other seed fell on shallow soil with underlying rock. The seed sprouted quickly because the soil was shallow. 6 But the plant soon wilted under the hot sun, and since it didn’t have deep roots, it died. 7 Other seed fell among thorns that grew up and choked out the tender plants so they produced no grain. 8 Still other seeds fell on fertile soil, and they sprouted, grew, and produced a crop that was thirty, sixty, and even a hundred times as much as had been planted!” 9 Then he said, “Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand.”

10 Later, when Jesus was alone with the twelve disciples and with the others who were gathered around, they asked him what the parables meant.

11 He replied, “You are permitted to understand the secrets of the Kingdom of God.

...13 Then Jesus said to them, “If you can’t understand the meaning of this parable, how will you understand all the other parables?”

This is a “master key” parable

Jesus says that understanding this parable unlocks all the other parables!

Matthew 22

36 “Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?”

37 Jesus replied, “‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ 40 The entire law and all the prophets are based on these two commandments.”

In context:

There are secrets of multiplication

There are mysteries of multiplication

Three things that will keep you from Multiplication:

1. The seed is snatched (vv. 4, 15)

15 The seed that fell on the footpath represents those who hear the message, only to have Satan come at once and take it away.

Secret of Multiplication: Keep your heart tender

2. Don’t develop roots (vv. 5, 17)

5 Other seed fell on shallow soil with underlying rock. The seed sprouted quickly because the soil was shallow. 6 But the plant soon wilted under the hot sun, and since it didn’t have deep roots, it died.

16 The seed on the rocky soil represents those who hear the message and immediately

receive it with joy. 17 But since they don't have deep roots, they don't last long. They fall away as soon as they have problems or are persecuted for believing God's word.

Secret of Multiplication: Develop deep roots

3. Live choked and crowded (vv. 7, 18-19)

7 Other seed fell among thorns that grew up and choked out the tender plants so they produced no grain.

18 The seed that fell among the thorns represents others who hear God's word, 19 but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the worries of this life, the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things, so no fruit is produced.

Secret of Multiplication: Keep Jesus first

20 ...those who hear and receive God's word and produce a harvest of thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times as much as had been planted!"

There are levels of multiplication!

How to 'level-up' your multiplication

1. "Hear" *akouó*

To hear God's voice which prompts a birthing of faith within

2. "Receive" *parakechomai*

To receive, admit

Welcoming with personal interest

3. "Produce" *karapophoreó*

To bear fruit

X Factor | Crushing the Cain Spirit

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The Kingdom of God works in multiplication.

In the Spirit, multiplication is not “more addition”; it is an altogether different mindset.

Definition of Multiplication:

When what you’ve been working for starts working for you.

This is a parable of ~~four~~ six soils!

- Hard
- Rocky
- Thorny
- 30x
- 60x
- 100x

Where are you now?

Where do you want to be?

Mark 4

11 He replied, “You are permitted to understand the secrets of the Kingdom of God.

There are secrets of multiplication

Jesus shares his message with masses

Jesus shares his secrets with those who seek

Will you seek God for the secrets of multiplication in your life?

...13 Then Jesus said to them, “If you can’t understand the meaning of this parable, how will you understand all the other parables?”

This is a “master key” parable

X FACTOR: Multiplication has less to do with the conditions around you and everything to do with the condition of your heart

Things that will keep you from multiplication:

Not developing deep roots (vv. 5, 16-17)

5 Other seed fell on shallow soil with underlying rock. ...16 The seed on the rocky soil represents those who hear the message and immediately receive it with joy. 17 But since they don’t have deep roots, they don’t last long.

Proverbs 12:3

*Wickedness never brings stability
but the godly have deep roots*

Genesis 4

3 In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering...

*5 but he did not accept Cain and his gift. This made Cain very angry, and he looked dejected.
6 “Why are you so angry?” the Lord asked Cain. “Why do you look so dejected? 7 You will be*

accepted if you do what is right.

But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master."

8 One day Cain suggested to his brother, "Let's go out into the fields." [c] And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother, Abel, and killed him.

9 Afterward the Lord asked Cain, "Where is your brother? Where is Abel?"

"I don't know," Cain responded. "Am I my brother's keeper?"

10 But the Lord said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground! 11 Now you are cursed and banished from the ground, which has swallowed your brother's blood. 12 No longer will the ground yield good crops for you, no matter how hard you work! From now on you will be a homeless wanderer on the earth."

13 Cain replied to the Lord, "My punishment is too great for me to bear! 14 You have banished me from the land and from your presence; you have made me a homeless wanderer. Anyone who finds me will kill me!"

15 The Lord replied, "No, for I will give a sevenfold punishment to anyone who kills you." Then the Lord put a mark on Cain to warn anyone who might try to kill him. 16 So Cain left the Lord's presence and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

The mark of Cain: always wandering, never satisfied.

17 Cain had sexual relations with his wife, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Enoch. Then Cain built a city.

If we're not careful we will build "great things" to prove ourselves to others out of a curse, instead of building out of blessing

When you live with the mark of Cain, even if you build entire city, what you build with your hands will never fill the void in your heart.

Here's the great news:

YOU'RE NOT CAIN

YOU'RE ABEL!

Hebrews 12

16 Make sure that no one is immoral or godless like Esau, who traded his birthright as the firstborn son for a single meal. 17 You know that afterward, when he wanted his father's blessing, he was rejected.

18 You have not come to a physical mountain, to a place of flaming fire, darkness, gloom, and whirlwind, as the Israelites did at Mount Sinai. ... 20 They staggered back under God's command: "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death." 21 Moses himself was so frightened at the sight that he said, "I am terrified and trembling."

*22 No, you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to countless thousands of angels in a joyful gathering. 23 You have come to the assembly of God's **firstborn children**, whose names are written in heaven instead of crying out for vengeance like the blood of Abel.*

24 You have come to Jesus, the one who mediates the new covenant between God and people, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks of forgiveness

X Factor | Multiplying out of Gratitude

A quick review...

Man works in addition

The Kingdom of God works in multiplication

In math, multiplication is 'more addition'

But in the Kingdom, multiplication is a completely different mindset

Definition of Multiplication: When what you've been working for, starts working for you

There are levels of multiplication

It's the parable of the six soils

3 bad; 3 good: 30x, 60x, 100x

There are secrets of multiplication

Jesus shares His message with the masses

Jesus shares His secrets with those who seek

X Factor (from the soils): Multiplication has less to do with the conditions around you and everything to do with the condition of your heart

X Factor (from Cain and Abel): You're not Cain. You're Abel. You don't work for blessing. You work from a place of blessing.

Cultivating a Multiplication Heart of Gratitude

1. GRATITUDE FUELS MULTIPLICATION (1 Timothy 6:6)

Often Type-A, high-achievers are afraid of gratitude because they equate being grateful with "settling."

1 Timothy 6:6

But godliness with contentment is great gain

"great gain"

megas

In the widest sense

Abundant

Greatest

"contentment"

porismos

A providing

A means of gain

A specific way (route) that brings gain or profit

2. GRATITUDE CULTIVATES ATMOSPHERES FOR THE MIRACULOUS (Matthew 13:53-58)

Matthew 13

53 When Jesus had finished telling these stories and illustrations, he left that part of the country. 54 He returned to Nazareth, his hometown. When he taught there in the synagogue, everyone was amazed and said, "Where does he get this wisdom and the power to do miracles?" 55 Then they scoffed, "He's just the carpenter's son, and we know Mary, his mother, and his brothers—James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas. 56 All his sisters live right here among us. Where did he learn all these things?" 57 And they were deeply offended and refused to believe in him.

Then Jesus told them, "A prophet is honored everywhere except in his own hometown and among his own family." 58 And so he did only a few miracles there because of their

unbelief.

Dishonor is not disrespect.

Dishonor is simply treating as common that which is uncommon.

Where there are low levels of honor, there are high levels of offense

Where there are high levels of honor, the miraculous increases

The 7:1 Principle

The highest performers in an organization receive seven compliments for every one critique. People thrive best in a culture of blessing, favor, and permission.

Good-tempered leaders invigorate lives, they're like spring rain and sunshine. (Proverbs 16:15)

3. GRATITUDE REQUIRES INTENTIONALITY (Luke 17:11-17)

Luke 17

11 As Jesus continued on toward Jerusalem, he reached the border between Galilee and Samaria. 12 As he entered a village there, ten men with leprosy stood at a distance,

13 crying out, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

14 He looked at them and said, "Go show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed of their leprosy.

15 One of them, when he saw that he was healed, came back to Jesus, shouting, "Praise God!" 16 He fell to the ground at Jesus' feet, thanking him for what he had done. This man was a Samaritan.

17 Jesus asked, "Didn't I heal ten men? Where are the other nine? 18 Has no one returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?" 19 And Jesus said to the man, "Stand up and go. Your faith has healed you."

X Factor | Keep Pouring

A quick review...

Mark 4:13

Jesus said to them, “If you can’t understand the meaning of this parable, how will you understand all the other parables?”

This is a master key parable. The understanding of this parable unlocks all the other parables.

Mark 4:11

11 He replied, “You are permitted to understand the secrets of the Kingdom of God.”

There are secrets of multiplication

This is the parable of the six soils

There are levels to multiplication

Proverbs 4:23, NLT

Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.

Keep Pouring

What is Kingdom Builders?

What is the difference between Kingdom Builders and missions?

Missions

Missions is primarily people (missionaries)

We tithe off our our tithe

We give 10% off of undesignated tithe and offering to missions

Kingdom Builders

Kingdom Builders is primarily projects

What we give (as a congregation) above and beyond the tithe to grow God's Kingdom in the areas of:

1. Global Missions
2. Local Church Expansion
3. Future Christian Leaders

2 Kings 4:1-7

1 One day the widow of a member of the group of prophets came to Elisha and cried out, "My husband who served you is dead, and you know how he feared the Lord. But now a creditor has come, threatening to take my two sons as slaves."

2 "What can I do to help you?" Elisha asked. "Tell me, what do you have in the house?"

"Nothing at all, except a flask of olive oil," she replied.

3 And Elisha said, "Borrow as many empty jars as you can from your friends and neighbors.

4 Then go into your house with your sons and shut the door behind you. Pour olive oil from your flask into the jars, setting each one aside when it is filled."

5 So she did as she was told. Her sons kept bringing jars to her, and she filled one after another.

6 Soon every container was full to the brim!

"Bring me another jar," she said to one of her sons.

“There aren’t any more!” he told her. And then the olive oil stopped flowing.

7 When she told the man of God what had happened, he said to her, “Now sell the olive oil and pay your debts, and you and your sons can live on what is left over.”

A SCARCITY MINDSET FOCUSES ON WHAT I DON’T HAVE

A MULTIPLICATION MINDSET FOCUSES ON WHAT I DO HAVE (v. 2)

A SCARCITY MINDSET IS A MINDSET OF ENTITLEMENT

A MULTIPLICATION MINDSET IS A MINDSET OF PARTNERSHIP (v. 3)

A SCARCITY MINDSET OPENS THE DOOR TO EVERYONE ELSE’S OPINIONS

A MULTIPLICATION MINDSET SHUTS THE DOOR AND LISTENS TO GOD (v. 4a)

A SCARCITY MINDSET SPENDS EVERYTHING ON THEMSELVES

A MULTIPLICATION MINDSET POURS INTO OTHERS (v. 4b)

Will you live with a SCARCITY MINDSET or a MULTIPLICATION MINDSET?