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**TOPIC** Jehovah Jireh

**SPEAKER** SP Daniel Foo

**THEME** Knowing and Experiencing God

**DATE** 20 & 21 July 2019

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## MESSAGE SUMMARY

### JEHOVAH JIREH – THE LORD WILL PROVIDE

Seven redemptive names of God can be found in Psalm 23; “I shall not be in want” (v1) shows God as Jehovah Jireh – The LORD will provide. Jehovah Jireh was first mentioned in Genesis 22:1-14. In these verses, God called Abraham to offer his only son Isaac as a burnt offering unto Him. God then provided a ram to replace Isaac as the burnt offering when He saw Abraham’s faith and obedience to Him. Due to this encounter, Abraham called the place of sacrifice The LORD will Provide.

This account teaches us to have faith in God and trust His Word. God wants us to reign with Him and to fulfil the good works He has preordained for us to do (Romans 5:17, Ephesians 2:10). We need to understand and apply four key principles to experience Him as the LORD who provides.

### FOUR PRINCIPLES OF PROVIDENCE

#### 1) KNOW, UNDERSTAND AND TRUST GOD AS YOUR ULTIMATE PROVIDER

Knowing, understanding and trusting God is the foundation of being provided for. We can plan for our lives but everything will be futile if we do not have this foundation. The Lord our God is the one who gives us power to get wealth and that abundance we have comes from Him (Deut 8:18, 1 Chron 29:12,14,16). He teaches us to profit and delights in our prosperity (Isa 48:17, Psa 35:27).

#### 2) SEEK GOD FIRST, HIS KINGDOM AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS

In Matthew 6, Christ instructed us not to worry but seek first the kingdom and His righteousness. We must make Jesus King of our lives, allowing Him to reign and rule. God’s kingdom is governed by righteousness. We need to have right-standing with God, right-believing in God, the Word and Holy Spirit as well as right living.

Justified by faith, we have peace and right-standing with God through Jesus. Through Him also we have access by faith to God’s favour in which we can firmly stand and exult in our hope of experiencing and enjoying the glory of God (Rom 5:1-2).

### 3) DO NOT LOVE THE WORLD; DEEPEN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

1 John 2:15-16 tells us not to love the world which is the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life. We need to be rooted in the Father's love so as to overcome the love of the world. Furthermore, we should hold very loosely to everything of the world and hold on very tightly to the Word and our relationship with the Holy Spirit instead. This means seeking the Lord rather than trusting in chariots and horses (Isa 31:1, Psa 20:7). When we do that, we will find peace even when we face tribulations in this world (John 16:33). As people born of God, we need to be sober and vigilant so that the devil, our adversary, cannot devour us (1 John 5:18, 1 Pet 5:8).

### 4) FIND THE SPECIFIC GRACE FOR OUR SPECIFIC NEEDS

God provides for our basic needs because He is our Father. Hence, we should go beyond praying for our basic needs and ask God for His specific grace for our specific needs (Heb 4:16). Seek grace in the Word of God which contains laws and principles as well as His promises.

1. Tithing is key to financial freedom. We are robbing God when we do not tithe. Tithing is about our faith in God as our Provider. He will rebuke the devourer and pour out abundant blessings when we tithe (Malachi 3:8-11).
2. Show mercy to others: God will judge without mercy to those who show no mercy (James 2:13).
3. We need to be generous because we cannot love without giving (Prov 11:25).
4. Give graciously to the poor. We lend to God when we help the poor (Prov 19:17).
5. Understand the law of faith. It is impossible to please Him without faith for whoever draws near to God must believe that He exists and rewards those who seek Him (Heb 11:6). Our faith must also produce good works (James 2:14-16).
6. Sow bountifully to reap bountifully. Invest in others and God will multiply the returns. Do it diligently and without weariness so that our works will bear good fruit (Eccl 11:1,6).

It must be noted that the gospel of the Kingdom of God is about God blessing believers accordingly. His blessings are all due to His grace and mercy; we can never buy them.

## CONCLUSION

With God as our Jehovah Jireh, we will not be in want. There are four principles of providence we need to understand and apply so that He can be our Provider in our lives – know, understand and trust God as our ultimate Provider, seek God first, His kingdom and His righteousness, do not love the world but deepen your relationship with God and find the specific grace for our specific needs.

Above all, the key to the Lord's providence is surrender and trust. Are you *fully* surrendered to God, trusting that He is *your* Jehovah Jireh?

# QUESTIONS

1. Share a time when you struggled with providence (i.e. having your needs met). How did this affect your relationship with God?

2. The 4 key principles of providence boil down to surrender and trust. What is one thing that God is speaking to you now to surrender to Him and to trust Him instead (e.g. the widow's last meal, Abraham's Isaac, 5 loaves and 2 fishes)?

3. Stepping out to experience God's provision requires sowing a seed in faith. Share the offering you made to the Lord at last weekend's service, or how you might thinking of sowing into your particular need.