

# God Always Does These 7 Things Before a Major Blessing

By Admin | Sermon | July 25, 2026

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## God Always Does These 7 Things Before a Major Blessing

Have you ever noticed how sometimes before the calm, there's a whirlwind of activity or change that sweeps through your life? It's like a divine orchestration that leaves us wondering about its purpose—a celestial symphony that plays right before a crescendo of blessing. Today, we're diving into an extraordinary aspect of God's nature: the seven things He consistently does before releasing a major blessing into your life. These moments of preparation are not merely coincidences; they are intentional acts of love and growth that prepare our hearts and souls to receive His grace in abundance.

Imagine your life as a grand puzzle, and God's blessings are the final pieces that you are eager to place. Before those last pieces fit perfectly, there's often some repositioning involved. Interestingly, God steps in with His master strokes to ensure that the framework of your life is ready for those transformative moments. Each aspect of this divine preparation serves to align our lives with His perfect will, often in ways we might not even recognize at first. Before we begin, if this message is already touching your heart, consider subscribing to stay connected to God's Word daily.

Turning to Scripture, we find countless examples of this divine prelude in action. Picture Joseph in the dim dungeons of Egypt when all seemed lost and bleak, completely unaware that he was on the cusp of ascending to leadership second only to Pharaoh himself. Or consider the Israelites wandering in the wilderness—years of journeying through uncertainty laid the foundation for receiving the Promised Land. In these stories and more, we see a pattern revealing that God's timing is never about delays, but deep, intentional preparation. Each trial and triumph along the way serves a greater purpose.

When we peer through the biblical lens and observe the divine way in which God operates, it becomes evident that His steps before a blessing are not only meant to build character or resilience. They are also opportunities for transformation, deeper faith, and an intimate communion with Him. Do these events sometimes test us beyond what we think we can bear? Certainly. But within these tests, God's presence shines through, offering strength, wisdom, and understanding for the journey ahead. So, let's explore these seven divine steps together and uncover what God might be doing in your life right now.

### Number 1: Preparing the Heart for Transformation

In our journey through life, it is often the heart that dictates how we perceive our circumstances and embrace the divine plans God has in store for us. God understands this truth intimately, and before He blesses us in immeasurable ways, He first engages in the profound act of preparing our

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hearts for transformation. This preparation is crucial because it ensures that when the blessing arrives, we can honor it, nurture it, and use it according to God's purpose.

Consider David, the shepherd boy who became king. Before he ascended to the throne of Israel, God meticulously prepared David's heart during his time in the fields. Surrounded by the serene beauty of nature and tasked with sheep, David learned to rely on God's presence and strength. This season of solitude and responsibility softened his heart, nurturing humility and teaching him the importance of faithfulness in small things. This transformation prepared him for the blessing of leadership, so when the time came, David was not just a king by title but a shepherd at heart, leading God's people with compassion and wisdom.

The heart's preparation often involves trials and challenges designed to refine and strengthen our character. Just as clay is molded into its best form through pressure and shaping, God uses life's difficulties to prepare our hearts for what is to come. In the book of James 1:2-4, we are encouraged to "consider it pure joy... whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance." Trials prepare us to handle the burdens that often accompany blessings, equipping us with patience, resilience, and understanding.

The life of Joseph offers a vivid illustration of this principle. Sold into slavery by his own brothers, Joseph endures years of hardship and imprisonment in Egypt. Each trial Joseph faces is an integral part of a divine preparation process, sharpening his leadership skills, deepening his faith, and expanding his compassion for others. When he eventually becomes the vizier of Egypt, Joseph's heart is ready not only to wield power but to administer it with grace and mercy, saving countless lives in the time of famine.

Our spiritual heart preparation isn't just about overcoming challenges; it's also about developing an intimate relationship with God. In Psalm 51:10, David cries out, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me." This plea reflects a heart open to transformation, seeking purity and renewal. As we draw nearer to God, listening for His voice and aligning our desires with His, our hearts are transformed, making space for the blessings He intends to pour into our lives.

In practical terms, preparing your heart might mean delving deeper into prayer, seeking God's guidance and asking for His wisdom to permeate your thoughts and actions. It might involve diving into His Word with a fervent desire to understand and apply it, letting Scripture refine your attitudes and cultivate the fruit of the Spirit within you, such as love, joy, and peace Galatians 5:22-23. As you engage in these spiritual disciplines, God begins to transform the soil of your heart, uprooting

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weeds and planting seeds of faith, hope, and love.

You see, a heart prepared by God is one that can remain steadfast in chaos, find joy in trials, and exude peace amidst uncertainty. This preparation is essential because blessings, while joyous, can also bring significant responsibilities and temptations. A heart not prepared might misuse blessings, turning them into burdens. However, a heart molded by God is poised to steward His gifts wisely and faithfully.

To be fertile ground for God's blessings, our hearts must also embrace forgiveness and release any lingering bitterness. In Matthew 5:23-24, Jesus instructs us to seek reconciliation with others before presenting our offerings to God—indicating that a heart harboring grudges is not ready to fully receive divine gifts. Letting go of past hurts and embracing forgiveness makes room for God's healing and the coming blessings.

Look too at how Jesus prepared His own heart in times of great anticipation and blessing; He often withdrew to solitary places for prayer Luke 5:16. This spiritual retreat provided Him with space to commune with the Father, renew His purpose, and ready His spirit for His public ministry. Similarly, taking intentional time to be alone with God is a powerful way to prepare your heart for transformation and forthcoming blessings.

The preparatory phase may not always be easy, but it is filled with purpose. Trust that even when you cannot see what God is doing, He is working all things together for your good Romans 8:28. Each test becomes a testimony, each hardship a stepping stone toward the promised blessing.

Approaching heart preparation with gratitude for God's wisdom and timing transforms the way you experience life's seasons, moving you from impatience to anticipation. You start to see each moment as a divine orchestration leading you closer to His greater plan. Consider how Scripture not only guides your steps but also guards your heart, as Philippians 4:7 promises, "the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." Such peace is a cornerstone of readiness for God's blessings.

So as you navigate this transformative journey, embrace the heart preparation God is doing in your life today, trusting that it is forging you into someone capable of receiving and managing the abundant blessings He has promised. Allow His love to heal, His truth to equip, and His grace to guide you, preparing your heart for everything He desires to bestow upon you. Remember, the wait is not inert, but a fertile season in which God is cultivating something beautiful for your future.

In conclusion, preparing the heart for transformation is a sacred process, orchestrated by God

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Himself in anticipation of the major blessings He is preparing for us. Whether through trials, spiritual disciplines, or deliberate moments of solitude with Him, accept this preparation with open arms, knowing that God's timing is perfect, and His plans are to prosper you, giving you a hope and a future Jeremiah 29:11. Take heart, beloved, for this transformation is leading you toward all He has promised.

## Number 2: Testing Faith Through Trials

In our journey of faith, one profound truth stands out: trials are not punishment but preparation. The Bible is rich with narratives that demonstrate how God uses trials to test and ultimately strengthen our faith before ushering in significant blessings. Let's embark on this exploration to understand how God masterfully shapes our faith through trials, preparing us for the blessings He has in store.

Consider the story of Joseph, recorded in the book of Genesis. To Joseph, dreams were more than just visions in the night; they were promises from God. However, before Joseph could see the fulfillment of those dreams, he endured several trials. Betrayed by his own brothers, sold into slavery, falsely accused, and imprisoned, Joseph's life was a long series of severe tests Genesis 37, 39-40. But through it all, Joseph remained steadfast in his faith. His unwavering trust in God, despite the overwhelming trials, ultimately led to his rise as the governor of Egypt, where he saved many lives during a famine Genesis 41:41-43. Joseph's story teaches us that our faith is tested not to break us, but to prepare us for greater responsibilities and blessings.

Similarly, the Apostle Peter speaks directly to the value of trials in 1 Peter 1:6-7 NIV: "In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness

## Number 3: Revealing Hidden Truths and Understanding

In our journey of faith, one of the profound works God often undertakes before unleashing a major blessing is revealing hidden truths and granting deeper understanding. This step is crucial because it prepares our hearts and minds, aligning us in readiness for His divine plans. Throughout biblical history, God consistently surfaces pivotal truths when His people are on the brink of experiencing His abundant blessings.

Consider the story of Joseph. Before Joseph rose to power in Egypt as a blessing not only to himself but also to his family and nation, God unveiled hidden truths through dreams. In Genesis 37, young Joseph dreamed dreams that unveiled his future role and the dynamics that would play

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out with his brothers. Although initially misunderstood and resulting in strife, these dreams were revelations of God's perspective on Joseph's identity and future. Years later, it became evident that these insights were preparatory for an enormous blessing: saving his family and an entire region from famine. God was inviting Joseph to see beyond his immediate circumstances, sowing seeds of understanding that would anchor his faith as he navigated trials.

Similarly, when Solomon became king, he famously asked God for wisdom to govern His people. In 1 Kings 3, God granted Solomon a wise and discerning heart, marking it as a divine underpinning for leading with insight. This wisdom was a powerful blessing, not just for Solomon personally but for the nation of Israel as a whole. God revealed to Solomon deep truths about leadership, justice, and human nature, enabling him to make decisions that guided his people toward prosperity. Solomon's story encourages us that seeking and receiving divine understanding can posture us to navigate and steward God's blessings with wisdom and grace.

The Apostle Paul is another pertinent example. Before embarking on his apostolic missions, Paul experienced profound revelations that transformed his understanding of the gospel. As narrated in Acts 9, God dramatically intervened in Paul's life, revealing the truth of Jesus Christ and His purpose for Paul's life. This divine revelation was pivotal; it recalibrated Paul's zealous heart, redirecting it from persecution to proclamation. Paul's newfound understanding of grace empowered him to spread God's message across the known world, leading to immense spiritual blessings for countless communities. His life underscores how God often reveals profound truths that not only change our perspective but also expand our capacity to receive and administer His blessings.

The Bible repeatedly illustrates that God's revelations are not simply for our personal edification but are deeply intertwined with His larger purposes. In James 1:5, we are reminded, "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you." This invitation shows God's readiness to reveal divine insights when we seek Him earnestly. As we pursue understanding, we become more aware of God's work in our lives and more attuned to recognize the blessings He sends our way.

Practically, we can invite God to reveal hidden truths by fostering a close relationship with Him through prayer and diligent study of Scripture. Engaging in regular quiet time allows God to speak into the fabric of our daily lives, and it cultivates an environment where His truths can penetrate our heart. Journaling experiences and insights, much like the psalmists documented their revelations, can become a tapestry of God's unfolding narrative of blessing in our lives. As we look back on what God has revealed, we can discern patterns of His faithfulness and guidance, preparing us to

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receive more.

Additionally, seeking counsel from trusted spiritual mentors or leaders can also illuminate truths we might not see on our own. Proverbs 11:14 reminds us, "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety." God often uses the wisdom of others to reveal and confirm what He is speaking to us. This fellowship offers new perspectives and affirms that God's blessings often arise within the context of community.

Another practical step is to cultivate a heart of humility and openness to God's correction. Sometimes, God reveals truths that require us to make adjustments or let go of misconceptions. This process was evident with King David, who, upon being confronted by Nathan about his sin with Bathsheba, embraced the revealed truth, repented, and subsequently was blessed by God through continued leadership and a legacy that ushered in Solomon. Accepting God's corrective truths can act as a springboard for deeper blessings, aligning us more closely with His heart.

In the waiting period before a major blessing, God's revealed truths act as a light guiding us through periods of doubt and uncertainty. They ground us in His promises, enabling us to stand firm when circumstances seem contrary to what He has promised. It's essential to hold tightly to these revelations, nurturing them with faith and expectancy. As we do so, our perspectives shift, and we find peace and assurance that God's timing and ways are perfect, as Isaiah 55:8-9 declares, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord."

In conclusion, as we seek and embrace the hidden truths God reveals, we find ourselves better equipped and positioned for the blessings He intends. God does not reveal truths to leave us in a state of inaction but rather to mobilize us into our destiny with clarity and courage. May we be vigilant, with hearts ready to receive His revelations, cherishing them as pivotal compass points leading us toward the fullness of His promises. Every moment of clarity God imparts is like a stepping stone toward the magnificent horizon of His planned blessing, each insight planting seeds of faith that flourish in due season.

## Number 4: Aligning Purpose and Calling

As we journey through life, seeking to align our steps with God's will, one pivotal area we encounter is the alignment of purpose and calling. This alignment is not merely about what we do; it is intricately tied to who we are designed to be. In this section, we'll explore how God works to align our unique purpose with His calling, paving the way for a major blessing.



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The story of David offers a beautiful illustration of aligning purpose and calling. When we first meet David in 1 Samuel 16, he is a young shepherd, seemingly leagues away from the grandeur of kingship. Yet, God was already aligning David's purpose with his eventual calling as king. While tending sheep could appear mundane, God used this time to prepare David's heart and develop skills he would later use to lead a nation—skills of courage, care, and protection.

David's story reminds us that the alignment of purpose and calling begins long before we step into the fullness of what God has planned for us. David's purpose in those early days was to learn, grow, and stay faithful in the small things, which was crucial in his preparation for greater responsibilities. It's a powerful reminder for us that today's obedience is the groundwork for tomorrow's miracles.

The Bible shows us that this preparation often happens away from the limelight. Moses, before leading Israel out of Egypt, spent 40 years in the desert tending sheep Exodus 3. Like David, Moses' time in the wilderness was not wasted; it was where God equipped him with endurance, humility, and reliance on divine guidance. Similarly, when God is aligning our purpose with His calling, He often takes us through seasons of preparation, teaching us invaluable lessons in solitude and simplicity.

Purpose alignment also involves removing distractions and clarifying focus. God works to refine us, setting aside anything that might hinder our journey to His calling. In Hebrews 12:1, we are urged to throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, running with perseverance the race marked out for us. Clearing these hurdles is critical to move forward, as the Apostle Paul illustrates in Philippians 3:13-14, urging us to forget what is behind and strain towards what is ahead, pressing on towards the goal for which God has called us heavenwards in Christ Jesus.

When God aligns our purpose and calling, He often adjusts our desires to match His will. Psalm 37:4 tells us, "Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart." This does not merely mean fulfilling our personal wishes but indicates a transformative process where God shapes our hearts' desires to reflect His plan for our lives.

Take Joseph, for example. His journey from dreamer to Egyptian official was marked by trials and triumphs. Yet through it all, Joseph's purpose aligned with God's calling for him to save his family and many others from famine Genesis 45:5-7. Even when falsely accused and imprisoned, Joseph stayed true to his God-given dreams and calling. His life proves that God's alignment of purpose is often accompanied by divine timing, waiting until our hearts are molded to His desire for our path.

Jesus himself presented a perfect example of aligned purpose and calling. Though divine, Jesus

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embraced His purpose on earth to fulfill God's plan of salvation. Throughout the Gospels, we see Jesus intentionally living with a singular focus on redeeming mankind, often withdrawing to solitary places to pray and realign with His Father's will Luke 5:16. His life was the epitome of submitting to divine purpose, exemplified profoundly in His prayer in Gethsemane, "Yet not my will, but yours be done" Luke 22:42. As Christians, we are called to align ourselves with this same heart of surrender.

Alignment of purpose and calling is not a passive process. It requires active engagement in prayer and reflection. James 1:5 encourages us to seek God's wisdom if we lack it. Through prayer, we invite God to reveal and refine what He has ordained for us, gaining clarity and courage to step into our calling boldly. It's a divine partnership where our willingness meets God's guidance.

Moreover, aligning with our God-given calling often means letting go of our preconceived notions of success and embracing a new definition—one centered on faithfulness and service rather than worldly accolades. Paul poignantly instructs in Romans 12:2 not to conform to this world but to be transformed by renewing our minds, so we may discern God's will, what is good and pleasing and perfect. Our success is firmly rooted in fulfilling the purpose God has assigned to us.

Practical application of aligning purpose and calling involves taking tangible steps to follow where God leads. This might involve developing new skills, stepping out in faith into unfamiliar roles, or investing in relationships that inspire and challenge your growth in Christ-like virtues. Recall the story of Esther, whose divine calling as queen came at a critical moment for her people. Her courage to rise to the occasion and step into her calling resulted in the salvation of Israel Esther 4:14. Like Esther, when we align ourselves with God's purpose, we too can serve as instruments of His profound blessing to others.

Community plays a pivotal role in the context of alignment. Surrounding ourselves with other believers who encourage and hold us accountable can make a significant difference in staying aligned with our purpose. In Proverbs 27:17, "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." Having mentors and spiritual friends can provide wisdom, insights, and constructive feedback during our alignment process.

Above all, trust God's timing when seeking alignment. We might want to rush to the outcome, but God desires to take us through the process. Proverbs 3:5-6 echoes this sentiment, encouraging us to trust the Lord with all our hearts, leaning not on our understanding but acknowledging Him in all our ways for a straight path. As we faithfully wait on God and adhere to His direction, we become conduits for His blessings, perfectly aligned to receive what He has prepared for us.

As you reflect on your journey today, ask yourself: What dreams and desires has God placed in my



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heart? How is God currently preparing me for my calling? Engage in prayer, seek wise counsel, and delve into scripture to discover how God is aligning your purpose with His calling. Whether in the humblest tasks or the daunting challenges, every step is significant in God's grand tapestry of blessing.

In summing up, aligning purpose and calling is a sacred process overseen by God. It is where our unique giftings meet divine timing, where every experience and trial shapes us for the extraordinary blessings God has planned. Remember, you are fearfully and wonderfully made, designed with a purpose that fits perfectly within God's greater calling. As you faithfully align your life with His purpose, be assured that God is leading you not only to a significant blessing but also toward a life that reflects His glory and fulfills His eternal purposes in the world.

## Number 5: Cultivating a Spirit of Obedience

When we delve into the heart of God's nature and His dealings with us, we often find that obedience lies at the core of our relationship with Him. Before a major blessing unfolds in your life, God often sets the stage by cultivating within you a spirit of obedience. It's in these moments of submission to His divine will that we truly begin to see His plans for us unfold.

Throughout scripture, we observe that God's servants who walked in obedience were entrusted with great responsibilities and blessings. Consider Abraham, the father of faith, who obeyed God without knowing where he was going Hebrews 11:8-10. Here was a man called to leave all that was familiar to him—his homeland, his family—and step into the unknown simply because God commanded it. His obedience was not in the absence of doubt or questions but in the certainty that God who promised was faithful.

In the Old Testament narrative of obedience, we see the Israelites' journey from Egypt to the Promised Land as another profound example. The path was not always easy, and their obedience wavered, but each step guided by God was another step closer to a land flowing with milk and honey. Their experience reveals to us that obedience is not a one-time act but a continuous journey that refines our faith and prepares us for the blessings ahead.

But why is obedience so critical before receiving a major blessing? One reason is that obedience shapes us into vessels capable of handling the blessings God wants to pour out. In 1 Samuel 15:22, we learn that "to obey is better than sacrifice," highlighting that God values a heart inclined to His commands over rituals and offerings. A spirit of obedience aligns our will with God's, ensuring that we are not only recipients of His blessings but also stewards who honor the gift and the Giver.

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Let's look at the life of Jesus, our ultimate example in obedience. In Philippians 2:8, Paul writes that Jesus "humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!" His obedience was rooted in love and trust in the Father's plan. Through His ultimate sacrifice, humanity received the ultimate blessing: reconciliation with God. Jesus demonstrated that obedience, even in hardship, produces an eternal impact and abundant blessings for others.

As modern-day believers, cultivating a spirit of obedience may sometimes clash with societal norms of autonomy and self-governance. Yet, true freedom is found in complete surrender to God's will. The peace and assurance that come from being within His perfect plan far outweigh any fleeting gains of resisting His command. Learning to quiet our own voices and heed His is a discipline that requires both patience and practice.

Practically speaking, we can cultivate a spirit of obedience by immersing ourselves in God's Word. In Psalm 119:105, it declares, "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path." Scripture becomes our guide, illuminating the steps we must take and the choices we must make in accordance with God's will. As we read and meditate on His Word daily, our hearts are gradually transformed, aligning more closely with His desires.

Prayer is another vital practice in fostering obedience. Through prayer, we communicate our deepest thoughts and desires to God while also pausing to listen for His guidance. This two-way conversation builds intimacy and strengthens our resolve to honor God through our actions. In seasons where obedience is challenging, prayers for strength and perseverance become our anchor.

Moreover, God often uses community—His church—to bolster our commitment to obedience. Fellow believers provide encouragement, accountability, and wisdom. Surrounding ourselves with godly influences helps us stay the course even when our own resolve begins to wane. Hebrews 10:24-25 reminds us to "consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together...but encouraging one another."

Obedience also requires discernment—being in tune with the Holy Spirit, who prompts and guides us into all truth John 16:13. His gentle nudges, warnings, and affirmations come as we remain sensitive to His presence, ensuring that we obey fully and promptly. Even when His instructions don't seem logical in human terms, our spirit of obedience enables us to trust His greater perspective.

As you prepare for the blessings God has for you, take heart in knowing that your obedience

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delights Him. It is a beautiful expression of your love for Him and a testament of your faith. Each step of obedience lays a foundation upon which He builds your future, steadily drawing you closer to the realization of His promises.

In conclusion, cultivating a spirit of obedience is integral to walking in the fullness of God's blessings. It knits our heart to His, aligning us as co-laborers in His divine plan. By embracing a lifestyle of obedience, you position yourself as a ready vessel for God to use mightily, blessing you and others through what He accomplishes in your life. Trust that each act of obedience is a step toward receiving His boundless blessings—a journey of faith rewarded by His grace and favor.

## Number 6: Providing Divine Guidance and Direction

In our journey through life, it's easy to feel overwhelmed by choices and the paths we might take. However, before a major blessing unfolds, God frequently provides divine guidance and direction, illuminating our way with His wisdom and love.

Consider the Israelites during their exodus from Egypt. As they journeyed towards the Promised Land, they faced numerous challenges and uncertainties about their path. Yet, God equipped them with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night to lead them along the way Exodus 13:21-22. This physical manifestation of His guidance assured them they were never alone and that their steps were ordered by the Almighty. It's a powerful reminder that God provides clarity in His timing, helping us navigate through life's deserts toward our personal Promised Land.

In a more personal encounter, let's look at the story of the prophet Elijah. After triumphing over the prophets of Baal, he found himself fleeing into the wilderness out of fear and exhaustion. In this moment of despair, God didn't abandon Elijah. Instead, He spoke to him not in the earthquake or fire, but with a "gentle whisper" 1 Kings 19:11-13. In those still, quiet moments, God directed Elijah's next steps, encouraging him, renewing his purpose, and filling him with strength for the journeys and blessings ahead. We too can learn to listen in silence and trust that God's whispers will guide us through our fears and uncertainties.

In the New Testament, we see how Saul, later known as Paul, received divine guidance on the road to Damascus Acts 9:1-19. Just as he was about to persecute more Christians, God intervened, blinding him temporarily but ultimately opening his spiritual eyes. Saul's conversion and subsequent transformation into one of the most influential apostles highlight how receiving God's direction can change the trajectory of our lives, leading to blessings we never envisioned. God's guidance may sometimes come in startling or uncomfortable ways, but it always steers us towards greater purpose and divine encounters.

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God's guidance also manifests through His Word, which serves as a lamp for our feet and a light on our path Psalm 119:105. The Bible is a rich repository of wisdom and encouragement, offering clear insight and instruction for every facet of life. Meditating on scripture daily disciplines us to distinguish His voice amidst the noise of the world, reminding us to align our hearts with His will. It is through this intimate knowledge of God's Word that we cultivate discernment, nurturing our faith and trust in His divine plan.

Furthermore, God places mentors and godly leaders in our lives to provide wise counsel and direction. Consider Moses, whose leadership and faith strengthened the Israelites. His conversations with God on their behalf deliver valuable lessons about the importance of obedience and trust in divine guidance Exodus 33:12-23. Similarly, God gives us pastors, spiritual leaders, and friends who walk alongside us, offering guidance and reflecting His love. Surrounding ourselves with such individuals can bolster our journey towards the blessings God is preparing for us.

In our daily lives, God's guidance might come through the quiet confirmation of the Holy Spirit within us. This gentle nudging often urges us to step out in faith or redirects us when we're veering off His path. Paul spoke of this guidance in Galatians 5:16-18, emphasizing the importance of walking by the Spirit. By tuning our hearts to the Holy Spirit, we become more adept at sensing God's direction, ensuring that our actions are in tune with His perfect will.

When we find ourselves at a crossroads, prayer becomes an essential tool for seeking God's direction. James 1:5 encourages us to ask God for wisdom, promising that He gives generously to all without finding fault. Prayer aligns us with God's heart, allowing Him to deposit His wisdom directly into our spirits. And as we spend more time talking and listening to God, we develop not only a clearer understanding of His guidance but also a more intimate relationship with Him, making the anticipation of His coming blessings all the more precious.

God's direction is also evident through the doors He opens and closes. When we are praying about potential opportunities or life decisions, it is often His subtle way of guiding us by either paving a smooth road or presenting obstacles to redirect us. Paul experienced this when the Holy Spirit prevented him from preaching in certain regions Acts 16:6-10, ultimately guiding him to where he could be most impactful. Similarly, by accepting God's leading, we can have confidence in taking the right steps towards our destiny.

Amidst all these forms of guidance, trusting God's timing is paramount. His ways are higher than our ways, and His thoughts higher than our thoughts Isaiah 55:8-9. Thus, we must learn to be

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patient, knowing that His guidance will appear at just the right moment, leading us to blessings perfectly aligned with His good plans for us.

Indeed, trusting in divine guidance is non-negotiable when anticipating God's major blessings. By looking to His Word, seeking counsel from godly individuals, listening for His gentle whisper, yielding to the Holy Spirit's lead, and patiently waiting for His perfect timing, we position ourselves to journey down the path of His design. As we embrace His divine guidance and direction, we will find ourselves on the precipice of the blessings He's prepared, infused with hope, courage, and unwavering faith in His promises.

## Number 7: Perfecting Patience and Timing

As we journey through life, waiting can often feel like one of the most trying challenges God places before us. We've all been there—standing on the edge of a new season or awaiting a long-prayed-for blessing. It is during these times that God teaches us one of life's most valuable lessons: the art of patience and divine timing. Throughout Scripture, God shows us the importance of waiting on Him, and these periods of waiting are not idle or empty. They are filled with purpose, growth, and divine orchestration, preparing us for the blessings He has intricately planned for our lives.

One of the most profound examples of patience and divine timing in the Bible is the story of Abraham and Sarah. God promised Abraham that he would be the father of many nations—an incredible blessing, yet one that seemed impossible as years passed without a child. In Genesis 21:2, we see the fulfillment of that promise with the birth of Isaac, but it came after years of waiting and wondering. Through this story, God teaches us that His timing is perfect. He has a set appointed time for everything, just as it is written in Ecclesiastes 3:1, "To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven."

During the wait, God works on refining our characters, shaping us into the people we need to be to steward His blessings responsibly. In Romans 5:3-4, Paul reminds us that patience produces perseverance, character, and hope. Such qualities are crucial when we are being prepared to handle God's promises. Learning to trust in God's timing builds a faith that can withstand the storms of life, because it is rooted not in circumstances, but in the One who is sovereign over every detail of our lives.

David, the shepherd boy destined to be king, spent many years tending sheep and fleeing from Saul before he ever sat on the throne. His time in the wilderness was not wasted; it was where he learned to lean into God's strength, to worship while waiting, and to remain faithful in the small tasks. In Psalm 27:14, David wrote, "Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the

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Lord." This verse captures the essence of enduring patience—it is not merely a passive waiting but an active trust and reliance on God's promises.

Consider also Joseph, whose journey was fraught with setbacks. Sold into slavery, falsely accused, and imprisoned, Joseph might have despaired as each dream seemed to slip further from reach. But God was at work, preparing him for eventual leadership over Egypt. In Genesis 50:20, Joseph recognizes God's hand in the long years of waiting: "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." God uses the waiting period not only to build our character but also to set the stage for a larger purpose that we might not yet see.

Waiting can refine our character, deepen our relationship with God, and align our desires with His will. It is not just about learning to be patient; it is about learning to live with a deeper understanding and acceptance of God's timing, trusting that He sees the end from the beginning. It's about believing, as it says in Isaiah 40:31, "But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength." This renewal of strength is a promise that God walks with us, renewing us even as we wait.

In our fast-paced world, patience is a virtue often in short supply. Yet, when we shift our perspective, we realize that God isn't late but rather, He is creating the best opportunity for His plans to flourish in our lives. One practical application of this is developing a habit of gratitude, even in the waiting. As we thank God for His faithfulness and provisions, we reaffirm our trust in His timing and our belief that His ways are higher than our own Isaiah 55:9.

Moreover, through patience, we learn the importance of preparation. Anticipating a blessing calls us to prepare our hearts and minds. Are we ready to receive what God has for us? This question leads us to self-examination and growth, ensuring that when the time comes, like the wise virgins in Matthew 25, we are prepared with lamps full of oil, ready to meet the bridegroom. We see that the spiritual discipline of waiting not only involves patiently marking the passage of time but also actively participating in God's work here and now.

God's timing often requires us to let go of our own timelines and surrender them to Him in trust. This surrender, this faithful patience, transforms us and activates our faith. Whether it's a job opportunity, a healing, reconciliation in a relationship, or any other cherished hope, when we trust completely in God's timing, we open ourselves to His perfect love and plan for our lives.

As we reflect on these magnificent biblical stories and teachings, we understand that waiting is not a pause, but an integral part of God's nurturing process in our spiritual journey. It is in this sacred



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space of waiting that we grow, that our faith matures, and our hope is anchored in the One who keeps every promise. So, when we find ourselves in seasons of expectation, let us remember that God is always at work, perfecting our patience and aligning it with His sovereign timeline for the fullness of blessings to unfold.

## Conclusion

In our journey through understanding what God consistently does before bestowing a major blessing, we've uncovered the intricate tapestry of His divine preparation. Each of the seven things we've discussed serves as a vital thread in this beautiful pattern of His love and wisdom. Let's recap what we've learned together.

First, we explored how God often allows circumstances to deepen our faith, much like He did with Abraham. Before granting him the promise of a son, God took Abraham through significant steps of faith and trust, shaping him into a man who could handle the blessing responsibly. These tests are not punishments but divine opportunities to build an unshakeable faith. Reflect on how God might be drawing you closer through your current experiences, knowing they are designed for your strengthening.

Next, we considered the times God removes distractions from our lives. Like Gideon, sometimes God asks us to strip away what we lean on so that we can fully rely on Him. It's in these moments of divine focus that He aligns our hearts with His perfect will. This may involve making tough choices, but take comfort in knowing that God's refining fire purifies and prepares us for the blessing He has in store.

We also discussed how God often works in the quiet seasons of waiting. In these seemingly dormant periods, He is busy nurturing us, just as He did with King David, who spent years as a shepherd before taking the throne. During this quiet preparation, God equips us with the skills and character traits necessary to steward His blessings well. Embrace this waiting with hope, understanding that delays are not denials but divine timing at its finest.

Moreover, we touched on the importance of God enlarging our capacity to receive. This involves stretching us beyond our current limits, just as He did with the Apostle Paul. When God expands our boundaries, He is making room for greater blessings to come. Trust that as you grow, God is widening your path to fill it with His abundance.

Let's not forget how God often sends divine connections at just the right time. Ruth and Naomi's friendship exemplifies this beautifully. God brings the right people into your life to support,

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challenge, and elevate you. Cherish these relationships as they are often the conduits through which His blessings flow. Consider who God has placed in your life today as a sign of His impending favor.

Then we touched on obedience, where God requires us to take action steps like He did with the Israelites before possessing the Promised Land. Your active surrender to His commands opens the doorway to blessings that exceed your imagination. Walk boldly in His instructions, knowing that your obedience is a crucial element in His plan for your life.

Finally, we addressed God's role in increasing our gratitude. Cultivating a heart that recognizes and appreciates God's current blessings is essential. When we express gratitude, we prepare ourselves for more. Reflect on God's past faithfulness and thank Him for today's mercies as a precursor to tomorrow's blessings.

Throughout this endeavor, one thing remains clear: God's love and faithfulness are unwavering. No matter where you find yourself in this process, remember that God is deeply involved, passionately working to align His perfect will with your life. He has not forgotten you, and His plans are filled with hope and a future.

As you apply these insights, take time to pray, seek, and remain open to God's voice. By positioning yourself in faith and obedience, you partner with God in the exciting unfolding of His purposes. May His peace guide you, and may you walk confidently into the blessings that await.

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