

Do you feel limited in your service to Jehovah? Do you wonder if you are still useful to him? Or do you fail to see the need to make yourself available to serve Jehovah however he wants? This article will consider various ways that Jehovah can give you the desire and the power to become whatever is necessary to fulfill his purpose.

(Philippians 2:13) For God is the one who for the sake of his good pleasure energizes you, giving you both the desire and the power to act.

Paragraph 1

(Isaiah 48:17) This is what Jehovah says, your Repurchaser, the Holy One of Israel: “I, Jehovah, am your God, The One teaching you to benefit yourself, The One guiding you in the way you should walk.

(2 Corinthians 7:6) But God, who comforts those who are downhearted, comforted us by the presence of Titus;

(Galatians 3:8) Now the scripture, foreseeing that God would declare people of the nations righteous through faith, declared the good news beforehand to Abraham, namely: “By means of you all the nations will be blessed.”

(Matthew 24:14) And this good news of the Kingdom will be preached in all the inhabited earth for a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

(Matthew 28:19, 20) Go, therefore, and make disciples of people of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the holy spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all the things I have commanded you. And look! I am with you all the days until the conclusion of the system of things.”

(2 Corinthians 1:3, 4) Praised be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of tender mercies and the God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our trials so that we may be able to comfort others in any sort of trial with the comfort that we receive from God.

Paragraph 3

(Philippians 2:13) For God is the one who for the sake of his good pleasure energizes you, giving you both the desire and the power to act.

Paragraph 4

(Isaiah 40:29) He gives power to the tired one And full might to those lacking strength.

(Exodus 35:30-35) Then Moses said to the Israelites: “See, Jehovah has chosen Bez'al-el the son of U'ri the son of Hur of the tribe of Judah. 31 He has filled him with the spirit of God, giving him wisdom, understanding, and knowledge of every sort of craftsmanship 32 for making artistic designs, for working with gold, silver, and copper, 33 for cutting and setting stones, and for making all kinds of artistic wood products. 34 And he has put it into his heart to teach, he and O·ho'li-ab the son of A·his'a·mach of the tribe of Dan. 35 He has filled them with skill to do all the work of a craftsman, an embroiderer, and a weaver using blue thread, purple wool, scarlet material, and fine linen, and of a loom worker. These men will do every sort of work and prepare every sort of design.

(2 Corinthians 4:7) However, we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the power beyond what is normal may be God's and not from us.

(Luke 11:13) Therefore, if you, although being wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more so will the Father in heaven give holy spirit to those asking him!”

Paragraph 5

(Acts 7:22-25) So Moses was instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians. In fact, he was powerful in his words and deeds. 23 "Now when he reached the age of 40, it came into his heart to make a visit on his brothers, the sons of Israel. 24 When he caught sight of one of them being unjustly treated, he defended him and avenged the one being abused by striking down the Egyptian. 25 He thought that his brothers would grasp that God was giving them salvation by his hand, but they did not grasp it.

(Acts 7:30) "After 40 years had passed, an angel appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Si'nai in the flame of a burning thornbush.

(Acts 7:34-36) I have certainly seen the oppression of my people who are in Egypt, and I have heard their groaning, and I have come down to rescue them. Now come, I will send you off to Egypt.' 35 This same Moses whom they had disowned, saying: 'Who appointed you ruler and judge?' is the very one God sent as both ruler and deliverer by means of the angel who appeared to him in the thornbush. 36 This man led them out, performing wonders and signs in Egypt and at the Red Sea and in the wilderness for 40 years.

(Exodus 9:13-19) Then Jehovah said to Moses: "Get up early in the morning and station yourself in front of Phar'aoh, and say to him, 'This is what Jehovah the God of the Hebrews has said: "Send my people away so that they may serve me. 14 For now I am directing all my blows to strike your heart, your servants, and your people, so that you may know that there is no one like me in all the earth. 15 For by now I could have thrust my hand out to strike you and your people with a devastating plague, and you would have been wiped out from the earth. 16 But for this very reason I have kept you in existence: to show you my power and to have my name declared in all the earth. 17 Are you still behaving arrogantly against my people by

not sending them away? 18 Here I will cause a very great hail to rain down tomorrow about this time, such as has never occurred in Egypt from the day it was founded until now. 19 Therefore, send word to bring all your livestock and all that is yours in the field under shelter. Every man and beast caught in the field and not brought into the house will die when the hail comes down on them.'"

(Philippians 4:13) For all things I have the strength through the one who gives me power.

Paragraph 6

(2 Samuel 17:27-29) As soon as David came to Ma·ha·na'im, Sho'bi the son of Na'hash from Rab'bah of the Am'mon·ites, Ma'chir the son of Am'mi-el from Lo-de'bar, and Bar-zil'lai the Gil'e-ad·ite from Ro·ge'lim 28 brought beds, basins, clay pots, wheat, barley, flour, roasted grain, broad beans, lentils, parched grain, 29 honey, butter, sheep, and cheese. They brought all of this out for David and the people with him to eat, for they said: "The people are hungry and tired and thirsty in the wilderness."

(Proverbs 3:27, 28) Do not withhold good from those to whom you should give it If it is within your power to help. 28 Do not say to your neighbor, "Go away; come back later! I will give it to you tomorrow," If you can give it now.

(Proverbs 19:17) The one showing favor to the lowly is lending to Jehovah, And He will repay him for what he does.

(2 Corinthians 8:14, 15) but that by means of an equalizing, your surplus at the present time might offset their need, so that their surplus might also offset your deficiency, that there may be an equalizing. 15 Just as it is written: "The person with much did not have too much, and the person with little did not have too little."

(2 Corinthians 9:11) In everything you are being enriched for every sort of generosity, which produces through us an expression of thanks to God;

Paragraph 7

(Luke 2:25-35) And look! there was a man in Jerusalem named Sim'e-on, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for Israel's consolation, and holy spirit was upon him. 26 Furthermore, it had been divinely revealed to him by the holy spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Christ of Jehovah. 27 Under the power of the spirit, he now came into the temple, and as the parents brought the young child Jesus in to do for him according to the customary practice of the Law, 28 he took the child into his arms and praised God and said: 29 "Now, Sovereign Lord, you are letting your slave go in peace according to your declaration, 30 because my eyes have seen your means of salvation 31 that you have prepared in the sight of all the peoples, 32 a light for removing the veil from the nations and a glory of your people Israel." 33 And the child's father and mother continued wondering at the things being spoken about him. 34 Also, Sim'e-on blessed them and said to Mary, the child's mother: "Look! This child is appointed for the falling and the rising again of many in Israel and for a sign to be spoken against 35 (yes, a long sword will be run through you), in order that the reasonings of many hearts may be revealed."

(Genesis 22:18) And by means of your offspring all nations of the earth will obtain a blessing for themselves because you have listened to my voice."

Paragraph 8

(Acts 4:36, 37) So Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Bar'na-bas (which means, when translated, "Son of Comfort"), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, 37 owned a piece of land, and he

sold it and brought the money and deposited it at the feet of the apostles.

(Acts 9:21) But all those hearing him were astonished and were saying: "Is this not the man who ravaged those in Jerusalem who call on this name? Did he not come here for the purpose of arresting them and taking them to the chief priests?"

(Acts 9:26-28) On arriving in Jerusalem, he made efforts to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, because they did not believe he was a disciple. 27 So Bar'na-bas came to his aid and led him to the apostles, and he told them in detail how on the road he had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had spoken boldly in the name of Jesus. 28 So he remained with them, moving about freely in Jerusalem, speaking boldly in the name of the Lord.

(Acts 11:22-24) The report about them reached the ears of the congregation in Jerusalem, and they sent out Bar'na-bas as far as Antioch. 23 When he arrived and saw the undeserved kindness of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all to continue in the Lord with heartfelt resolve; 24 for he was a good man and full of holy spirit and faith. And a considerable crowd was added to the Lord.

(1 Thessalonians 5:14) On the other hand, we urge you, brothers, to warn the disorderly, speak consolingly to those who are depressed, support the weak, be patient toward all.

Paragraph 10

(1 Samuel 25:3-13) The man's name was Na'bal, and his wife's name was Ab'i-gail. The wife was discerning and beautiful, but the husband, a Ca'leb-ite, was harsh, and he behaved badly. 4 David heard in the wilderness that Na'bal was shearing his sheep. 5 So David sent ten young men to him, and David told the young men: "Go up to Car'mel, and when you

come to Na'bal, ask him in my name about his welfare. 6 Then say, 'May you live long and may you be well and may your household be well and may all that you have be well. 7 Now I hear that you are doing your shearing. When your shepherds were with us, we did not harm them, and they found nothing missing the whole time they were in Car'mel. 8 Ask your young men, and they will tell you. May my young men find favor in your eyes, because we have come at a joyous time. Please give to your servants and to your son David whatever you can spare.'" 9 So David's young men went and told all of this to Na'bal in David's name. When they finished, 10 Na'bal answered David's servants: "Who is David, and who is the son of Jes'se? Nowadays many servants are breaking away from their masters. 11 Do I have to take my bread and my water and the meat that I butchered for my shearers and give it to men who come from who knows where?" 12 At that David's young men returned and reported all these words to him. 13 David immediately said to his men: "Everyone strap on your sword!" So they all strapped on their swords, and David also strapped on his own sword, and about 400 men went up with David, while 200 men stayed with the baggage.

(1 Samuel 25:22) May God do the same and more to the enemies of David if I allow a single male of his to survive until the morning."

(1 Samuel 25:23-28) When Ab'i·gail caught sight of David, she hurried down off the donkey and threw herself facedown before David, bowing to the ground. 24 She then fell at his feet and said: "My lord, let the blame be on me; let your servant girl speak to you, and listen to the words of your servant girl. 25 Please, do not let my lord pay attention to this worthless Na'bal, for he is just like his name. Na'bal is his name, and senselessness is with him. But I, your servant girl, did not see my lord's young men whom you sent. 26 And now, my lord, as surely as Jehovah is living and as you are living, it is Jehovah who has held you back from incurring bloodguilt and from taking revenge with your own hand. May

your enemies and those seeking injury to my lord become like Na'bal. 27 Now let this gift that your servant girl has brought to my lord be given to the young men who are following my lord. 28 Pardon, please, the transgression of your servant girl, for Jehovah will without fail make for my lord a lasting house, because my lord is fighting the wars of Jehovah, and no evil has been found in you all your days.

(1 Samuel 25:32-34) At this David said to Ab'i·gail: "Praise Jehovah the God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me! 33 And blessed be your good sense! May you be blessed for restraining me this day from incurring bloodguilt and from taking revenge with my own hands. 34 Otherwise, as surely as Jehovah the God of Israel who held me back from harming you is living, if you had not come quickly to meet me, by morning there would not have remained a single male belonging to Na'bal."

(Proverbs 24:3) By wisdom a house is built up, And by discernment it is made secure.

(Titus 2:3-5) Likewise, let the older women be reverent in behavior, not slanderous, not enslaved to a lot of wine, teachers of what is good, 4 so that they may advise the younger women to love their husbands, to love their children, 5 to be sound in mind, chaste, working at home, good, subjecting themselves to their own husbands, so that the word of God may not be spoken of abusively.

Paragraph 11

(Nehemiah 2:20) However, I replied: "The God of the heavens is the One who will grant us success, and we his servants will get up and build; but you have neither share nor claim nor memorial in Jerusalem."

(Nehemiah 3:12) And next to them Shal'lum the son of Hal·lo'hesh, a prince of half the district of Jerusalem, did repair work, along with his daughters.

(Nehemiah 4:15-18) Now after our enemies heard that what they were doing had become known to us and that the true God had frustrated their plan, we all went back to work on the wall. 16 From that day forward, half of my men would do the work and half of them would hold the lances, the shields, the bows, and the coats of mail. And the princes stood behind the whole house of Judah 17 who were building the wall. Those who were carrying the loads did the work with one hand while holding a weapon in the other hand. 18 And each of the builders had a sword strapped to his hip while building, and the one to blow the horn stood beside me.

(Nehemiah 3:5) And next to them the Te·ko'ites did repair work, but their prominent men would not lower themselves to share in the service of their masters.

(Nehemiah 6:15) So the wall was completed on the 25th day of E'lul, in 52 days.

Paragraph 12

(Acts 9:36) Now there was in Jop'pa a disciple named Tab'i·tha, which means, when translated, “Dor'cas.” She abounded in good deeds and gifts of mercy that she was making.

(Acts 9:39-41) At that Peter got up and went with them. And when he arrived, they led him up into the upper room; and all the widows presented themselves to him, weeping and showing many garments and robes that Dor'cas had made while she was with them. 40 Peter then put everyone outside, and kneeling down, he prayed. Then turning toward the body, he said: “Tab'i·tha, rise!” She opened her eyes, and as she caught sight of Peter, she sat up. 41 Giving her his hand, he raised her up, and he called the holy ones and the widows and presented her alive.

(Hebrews 13:16) Moreover, do not forget to do good and to share what you have with others, for God is well-pleased with such sacrifices.

Paragraph 14

(Colossians 1:29) To this end I am indeed working hard, exerting myself with his strength that is operating powerfully within me.

Paragraph 15

(Ecclesiastes 12:1) Remember, then, your Grand Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of distress come and the years arrive when you will say: “I have no pleasure in them”;

(1 Timothy 4:12) Never let anyone look down on your youth. Instead, become an example to the faithful ones in speaking, in conduct, in love, in faith, in chasteness.

(1 Timothy 4:15) Ponder over these things; be absorbed in them, so that your advancement may be plainly seen by all people.

Paragraph 16

(Ecclesiastes 9:10) Whatever your hand finds to do, do with all your might, for there is no work nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom in the Grave, where you are going.

- **[Box on page 24]**
- **JEHOVAH WILL GIVE YOU “THE DESIRE AND THE POWER TO ACT”—PHILIPPIANS 2:13**
- **If you make yourself available, Jehovah can cause you to become a zealous evangelizer, an effective teacher, a capable comforter, a skilled worker, a supportive friend, or whatever else he needs to accomplish his will (See paragraphs 14-16)**
- **(Philippians 2:13) 13 For God is the one who for the sake of his good pleasure energizes you, giving you both the desire and the power to act.**