**Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church  - BIBLE STUDY 3/5/25**

**KNOW, BELIEVE AND ACHIEVE STUDIES**

**YOU JUST DON’T KNOW…WHEN GOD WILL TURN IT AROUND**

2 Kings 4:1-7 (SERMONIC TEXT)

1 Now there cried a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets unto Elisha, saying, Thy servant my husband is dead; and thou knowest that thy servant did fear the Lord: and the creditor is come to take unto him my two sons to be bondmen. 2 And Elisha said unto her, What shall I do for thee? tell me, what hast thou in the house? And she said, Thine handmaid hath not any thing in the house, save a pot of oil. 3 Then he said, Go, borrow thee vessels abroad of all thy neighbours, even empty vessels; borrow not a few. 4 And when thou art come in, thou shalt shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons, and shalt pour out into all those vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is full. 5 So she went from him, and shut the door upon her and upon her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured out. 6 And it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said unto her son, Bring me yet a vessel. And he said unto her, There is not a vessel more. And the oil stayed. 7 Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, Go, sell the oil, and pay thy debt, and live thou and thy children of the rest.

Is there a situation you’re going through like that of that woman’s? Are you pressed in, through no fault of your own, with a pressing need of some kind? Are you at the end of your rope, with no human help in sight? **TRUST IN GOD AT ALL TIMES.**

I read recently…Someone once told me, “I’ve got so many problems in my life right now that if anything else goes wrong, it’ll take me two weeks before I can get around to worrying about it.”

**Let prayer be your first response not last resort!!!**

**“Have you noticed how much praying for revival has been going on of late — and how little revival has resulted? I believe the problem is that we have been trying to substitute praying for obeying, and it simply will not work.” A.W. Tozier**

**THOUGHTS?**

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**SEVEN LESSONS FROM THE WIDOW WITH THE OLIVE OIL**

1. When you are in "trouble," seek Godly wisdom to gain a new perspective.

2. Use what you have to get what you need.

3. This widow only had one small jar of olive oil. Yet, she was instructed to POUR IT OUT. Don't be tempted to hold on to something because you can't see where the next supply will come from. God's math is different and He will multiply your seed if you trust Him.

4. This poor widow woman became a distribution channel for the Kingdom of God with just one  small jar of oil.

5. She did not depend on just her own supply. She sought her neighbors and friends' resources, and they invested in this new venture. Don't be afraid to ask for help!

6. She was quickly able to sell her product because she was providing something that everyone needed at the time.

7. Even in the midst of her own problems, she was a solution. God gave her  SUPERNATURAL ABUNDANCE, RESOURCES, AND PROVISION because she obeyed

 His Word.

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**SERMONIC TEXT:**

**1 Now there cried a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets unto Elisha, saying, Thy servant my husband is dead; and thou knowest that thy servant did fear the Lord: and the creditor is come to take unto him my two sons to be bondmen.**

**1 Prepare for a filling experience of God's Grace.**

**2 And Elisha said unto her, What shall I do for thee? tell me, what hast thou in the house? And she said, Thine handmaid hath not any thing in the house, save a pot of oil.**

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**2 God’s filling is bigger than what you expect**

"Go, borrow thee vessels abroad of all thy neighbors, even empty vessels; borrow not a few.”

**God wants to involve others, and it is about more than just you and your needs.**

-He wanted the widow to act in faith *but He also cared for the neighbors*.

-He wanted to show Himself to the neighbors.

-He wanted neighbors involved for His glory. \*\*\*Let’s come back to this…

**“We have not because we ask not.” (James 4:2)**

-What would have happened if the widow asked even more of her neighbors for

          jars?

-What would have happened if she had not asked her neighbors for the jars?

-TRUSTING GOD IS BELIEVING GOD!

GOD will fill the vessels…but we have to go get them.

God’s plan usually involves us actually doing something.

**The single oil jar that clarified the widow's poverty miraculously became her tool of deliverance. THOUGHTS?**

**QUESTION: Why does God lets us go through suffering times, only to bring us out?**

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**3 SHUT THE DOOR AND BELIEVE**

2 Kings 4:4

And when thou art come in, thou shalt shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons, and shalt pour out into all those vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is full.

God doesn't always spare us from tough times, but we can trust him to provide for our needs on the roller coaster of everyday life.

Each vessel had to be prepared

by being *gathered*,

by being *assembled*,

by being *emptied*,

by being *put in the right position* and

by *staying in the right position*.

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6 And it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said unto her son, Bring me yet a vessel. And he said unto her, There is not a vessel more. And the oil stayed. 7 Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, Go, sell the oil, and pay thy debt, and live thou and thy children of the rest.

**Lesson #1: Listen to God, not to your fears.**

**Lesson #2: Having faith often doesn’t make sense and often makes us uncomfortable.**

**Lesson #3: Faith DOES NOT mean we just sit around and wait for God to do all of the work.**

**Lesson #4: Ask. Seek. Knock.  GOD’S WILL BE DONE!**

**Lesson #5: God wants to involve others, and it is about more than just you and your needs.**

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**He wanted neighbors involved for His glory. \*\*\*We’re back to this…**

**QUESTION: WHAT DO YOU THINK OCCURRED WHEN THE VESSELS WERE RETURNED?**