

A Miracle behind the Door

Doors-Symbolic of something welcome, A place of transition from one place to the next, Denial of access/Keeping something out, Closure of time, Opening of time... "That door is shut!" "I have an Open door policy." "Darken someone's door" "Snuck in through the back door" "Knocking on Heaven's door" "When one door closes, another door opens" "Don't let the door hit you on the way out" "At deaths door" "Check your ego at the door" "Get one's foot in the door" Jesus said, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock." Paul said, "A great and effective door has been open to me..."

Miracles Behind the Door

2 Kings 4: 1-7 NKJV

A certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets cried out to Elisha, saying, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that your servant feared the LORD. And the creditor is coming to take my two sons to be his slaves."

² So Elisha said to her, "What shall I do for you? Tell me, what do you have in the house?" And she said, "Your maidservant has nothing in the house but a jar of oil." ³ Then he said, "Go, borrow vessels from everywhere, from all your neighbors—empty vessels; do not gather just a few. ⁴ And when you have come in, you shall shut the door behind you and your sons; then pour it into all those vessels, and set aside the full ones."

⁵ So she went from him and shut the door behind her and her sons, who brought *the vessels* to her; and she poured *it* out. ⁶ Now it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said to her son, "Bring me another vessel."

And he said to her, "*There is* not another vessel." So the oil ceased. ⁷ Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debt; and you *and* your sons live on the rest."

- The woman was desperate and knew where her help must come from. This kind of desperation is often the stopping point, where we quit or compromise.
- The woman and her sons talked as a family **obeyed** the word of the Lord-Start to Finish. They were part of the solution. Faith in action. Instead of asking, "Can you just wave your Staff instead?" Her sons could have refused. She could have went from house to house and sat down complaining, hoarded part of the money.
- She **shut the door** behind them.

TWO QUESTIONS: 1. "What do you want me to do?" 2. "What do you have?" This woman had a little.

When we give the little we have, we make room for a miracle.

The Shunammite Woman

2 Kings 4:15-17, 32-35 NKJV

Background: She and her Husband made room & were Kingdom minded, sharing what they had.

¹⁵ So he said, "Call her." When he had called her, she stood in the **doorway**. ¹⁶ Then he said, "About this time next year you shall embrace a son." And she said, "No, my lord. Man of God, do not lie to your maidservant!" ¹⁷ But the woman conceived..."

Continue reading the account of what occurred...

- The boy was in the field with his Dad and was taken to his Mother. He died. She laid him on the bed of Elisha, shut the door, & sought Elisha.
- Elisha sent Gehazi and his Staff. Gehazi laid the Staff on the child's face but...no results. The woman told Elisha, "I'm not leaving you", so he followed her and they went back to the house.
- Maps distance from Shunem to Mt. Carmel is approximately 16 Miles.

³² When Elisha came into the house, there was the child, lying dead on his bed. ³³ He went in therefore, **shut the door** behind the two of them, and prayed to the LORD. ³⁴ And he went up and lay on the child, and put his mouth on his mouth, his eyes on his eyes, and his hands on his hands; and he stretched himself out on the child, and the flesh of the child became warm. ³⁵ He returned and walked back and forth in the house, and again went up and stretched himself out on him; then the child sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes."

- Her 'promise' Son died. She shut the door behind her, desperately sought out the man of God and refused to relent. She needed help, so do we.
- Elisha told Gehazi to take the **Staff** and lay it on the boy's face. Afterall, Moses performed many miracles with a Staff. **What worked before, did not work anymore**. This time, only God would be glorified, not the man, not the Staff.

Question: Have you found recently that the things that used to work are no longer working?

***Sometimes to embrace the miracle,
we need to let go of the familiar, what we leaned on before***

i.e. Old friends, Crutches, Old thinking...

- Elisha went in personally, shut the door and **prayed**. Elisha did not give up on God. One way or another, God would help.

But you, when you pray go into your room, and when you have shut your door pray to your Father who is in the secret place, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

Matthew 6:6 NKJV

Luke 8:50-55 NKJV Jairus' 12 year old daughter-Jairus was told not to "trouble" Jesus-its too late

- Jesus told Jairus, "...Fear not: **believe** only and she shall be made whole." **Luke 8:50** NKJV
- Jesus didn't allow anyone to go into the house, behind the door except Peter, James, John, Father & Mother...He put them all outside
- He took her by the hand and called, saying, "Little girl, arise." She did!

Jesus can do anything! But He includes us in what He is doing. We are not spectators.

TWO QUESTIONS:

1. What did the Parents want Jesus to do? 2. What did they have in the house to offer? Invit to Jesus

A SET UP FOR THE MIRACULOUS

- When we don't have enough
- When we don't have anything. No answer, no oil, no life, no solution.
- When there is little. Lack and famine. "They shall not be ashamed in the evil time, and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied." Psalm 37:19 KJV
- When we **Shut the door** on fear, unbelief
- When we **join/assemble** with those who believe. Shut yourself in with the Peter's in your life, the James, Johns who believe to see Jesus.

Now and in days ahead we must not neglect assembling together! We have need of one another.

Spiritual and Practical needs : Connecting, Experience/Expertise. We've become too dependent on luxuries, virtual avatar relationships without true connection.

- When we **obey** His simple instructions. Kingdom principles. Naaman was told by Elisha's servant to wash in the Jordan seven times. 2 Kings 5:11, 12. If he asked something difficult, wouldn't you do it?

Like Mary said, "Whatever

He tells you to do, Do it!" – John 2:5

- Financial – Holes in your pocket? Start w/Bring the whole tithe. Be faithful with the little.

- Needing a miracle in your family? Begin with prayer, personal repentance, love.

Belief for a miracle first began in their heart, Before being fulfilled behind their door

Mark 6:34-44 NKJV Feeding 5,000

- Disciples suggested, "...send them away..."

Jesus was moved with compassion because "they were like sheep not having a shepherd..." He fed them spiritually and physically. He told the disciples to "*make* them all sit down in groups on the *green grass*." They lifted up 5 loaves + 2 Fish to Heaven, broke the loaves, the disciples set it before them and all ate and were filled. 12 baskets full of fragments and fish were left over.

Psalm 23:1,2 The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall *not want*. He *makes* me lie down in *green* pastures.

-He guides – He leads – He feeds – We need Him and One another. We are believers-its time we believe!