

LIFE GROUP LESSON

That's What She Said - Week of June 16

Opening Prayer:

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal today how the scripture might intersect your life and how “scarcity” thinking can impact our relationships, finances, and our walk with God.

Introduction

Most of us can relate to a time of scarcity in our lives. For many of us it may be financial scarcity when living paycheck to paycheck. We have struggled with which bill to pay next realizing we had “more month than money”. With inflation rising these past few years we may feel this even now as we ask “Do I have enough?” to make it. Others of us may struggle with “scarcity” when it comes to our identity. Many men and women ask the question, “Am I enough?” With constant images of other persons seemingly living more perfect lives than us we compare our parenting and marriages with others.

Share a time when you have struggled with “scarcity” in your life? How did this effect your attitude? How did this impact your relationships with family or spouse?

Background

Our primary text today is the powerful story of a time of “scarcity” in the land and the thinking of the Israelites. In 2 Kings 3 we find that the leaders and the people had gone through a drought so they were asking for water as it was scarce. Though they limited their prayers in only asking for water, God had in mind to give them even more by giving them the victory of taking Moab. Due to the drought which impacts crop production and food supply, many people were starving and dealing with hunger. The widow in chapter 4 that Elisha encountered had just lost her husband and the creditors were coming for her two sons to sell them into slavery to pay her husband's debts. This was a reality in the ancient world that children could be sold to pay family debts. So her level of “scarcity” was high as she was still dealing with the loss of her husband and the strong likelihood that her two sons would be taken from her as well.

1. Before reading our text today ask the question, **What is the Holy Spirit saying to you?**

Read 2 Kings 4:1-7

- a. Can you feel the deep question within the widow's comments in verse one, “Why?” My husband was a faithful servant of the Lord and of you Elisha. So, “why” did God allow this to happen knowing the domino effect that his death would mean financial hardship and now my two sons are to be taken? Why?
 - b. Can you relate to the widow's comments to Elisha in verse one?
 - c. Elisha responds to the widow by asking her “What's in your house?” In other words, what's in your hand? What can you lay your hands on that seems of little value now, but surrendered to God it can become even more valuable?
2. **What are you going to do about it?**
 - a. The widow answers by saying “...nothing, except some olive oil” vs. 2-3 She reveals her “scarcity” mentality by believing she has nothing when she actually does have something, small as it may be. However, if you and I have something in our hand that we are reluctant to surrender to God, we too may suffer under a scarcity mindset until we release what we have. So what is in your hand? What are still holding onto that you refuse to give to God which may be keeping you from living into God's abundance?
 - b. What do you need to “pour out” to God today that He can multiply to others?
 - c. One of the glaring realities of this powerful story is that the widow asked for help. She asked for the prophet's help who told her to turn to her neighbors for help with securing additional jars. On a scale of one to ten, how are you at asking for help? What is standing in the way of your miracle? Is it pride to ask for help from others whom God may use to bless you and those around you?

3. What are you going to do about it?

- a. What is God calling you to surrender to Him today that could take you from scarcity to abundance? Attitude? Finances? Relationships?
- b. Is there someone in your sphere of influence who is struggling with “scarcity” and needs your encouragement, your assistance or simply lending a hand?
- c. How can we pray for you and one another to surrender our scarcity mindset and believe God may have more for us than the current problems or struggles we face?



Text: 2 Kings 4: 1-7

PLAIN TRUTH

When you surrender to God what is in your hand, you go from _____ to _____.

1. God always _____ ahead.
2. The death to life moment
3. _____ to Finality
4. Finality to _____
5. Focus to _____ by _____ the _____ behind you.
6. Faith to _____ by surrendering our _____.

One Year Bible Reading For This Week:

June 16: 1 Kings 15:25-17:24, Acts 10:24-48, Psalm 134:1-3, Proverbs 17:9-11
June 17: 1 Kings 18:1-46, Acts 11:1-30, Psalm 135:1-21, Proverbs 17:12-13
June 18: 1 Kings 19:1-21, Acts 12:1-23, Psalm 136:1-26, Proverbs 17:14-15
June 19: 1 Kings 20:1-21:29, Acts 12:24-13:15, Psalm 137:1-9, Proverbs 17:16
June 20: 1 Kings 22:1-53, Acts 13:16-41, Psalm 138:1-8, Proverbs 17:17-18
June 21: 2 Kings 1:1-2:25, Acts 13:42-14:7, Psalm 139:1-24, Proverbs 17:19-21
June 22: 2 Kings 3:1-4:17, Acts 14:8-28, Psalm 140:1-13, Proverbs 17:22

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