

GIVE UP · PART 2

A SCARCITY MENTALITY

SOWING INTO YOUR NEXT LEVEL







SERMON OUTLINE · GIVE UP SERIES

PART 2: A SCARCITY MENTALITY

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THE MESSAGE AT A GLANCE

I — What Do You Have in the House?

II — The Oil Didn't Run Out. The Vessels Did.

III — Sell the Oil, Not the Vessel

IV — The Overthinker's Trap

V — Outrun Your Debt

VI — One Oil, Many Vessels



KEY

THE TEXT

2 Kings 4:1–7 · The widow's oil

2 KINGS 4:1–7 · ESV

1 Now the wife of one of the sons of the prophets cried to Elisha, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that your servant feared the LORD, but the creditor has come to take my two children to be his slaves." 2 And Elisha said to her, "What shall I do for you? Tell me; what have you in the house?" And she said, "Your servant has nothing in the house except a jar of oil." 3 Then he said, "Go outside, borrow vessels from all your neighbors, empty vessels and not too few. 4 Then go in and shut the door behind yourself and your sons and pour into all these vessels. And when one is full, set it aside." 5 So she went from him and shut the door behind herself and her sons. And as she poured they brought the vessels to her. 6 When the vessels were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another vessel." And he said to her, "There is not another." Then the oil stopped flowing. 7 She came and told the man of God, and he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debts, and you and your sons can live on the rest."

I

WHAT DO YOU HAVE IN THE HOUSE?

2 KINGS 4:2 · ESV

And Elisha said to her, "What shall I do for you? Tell me; what have you in the house?" And she said, "Your servant has nothing in the house except a jar of oil."

Elisha didn't start with what she lacked. He started with what she had.



A scarcity mentality sounds like this:

- "It's not enough."
- "I didn't make enough."
- "That was a lot of work. That took a lot of time."
- "How am I ever going to get the idea?"

WE LOSE CONFIDENCE, AND WE START BELIEVING IT'S NOT ENOUGH.

II THE OIL DIDN'T RUN OUT. THE VESSELS DID.

2 KINGS 4:6 · ESV

When the vessels were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another vessel." And he said to her, "There is not another." Then the oil stopped flowing.

Essentially, the oil only stopped flowing when the vessels ran out.

GOD DIDN'T GIVE HER INFINITE VESSELS. HE GAVE HER INFINITE OIL.

In that story, the oil doesn't stop. The vessels run out. And I think that's the problem for many of us: we stop giving God a container. We stop giving Him our vessels.

The point God was showing her: I always had enough oil. The problem is we don't have enough:

- Containers
- Customers
- Ideas
- Creativity

We're not stewarding it. And when we run out, we don't go get more.

PROVERBS 3:10 · ESV

then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

The Lord will fill your storehouse. But many of our storehouses aren't full because we ran out of what we brought Him.

SURFACE CHURCH

BORROW THE VESSEL, SELL THE OIL.

"BORROW VESSELS FROM ALL YOUR NEIGHBORS, EMPTY VESSELS AND NOT TOO FEW." 2 KINGS 4:3 (ESV)



YOUR NEIGHBORS
They have vessels

BORROWED VESSELS
Capacity you don't own

FILLED WITH YOUR OIL
What God gave you

SELL THE OIL
Pay the debt. Live on the rest.

WHAT YOU BORROW · THE VESSEL

THE THING THAT HOUSES THE OIL

- Space & tools
- Equipment
- Platforms & audiences
- Partnerships
- Capital

WHAT YOU SELL · THE OIL

WHAT GOD PUT IN YOUR HOUSE

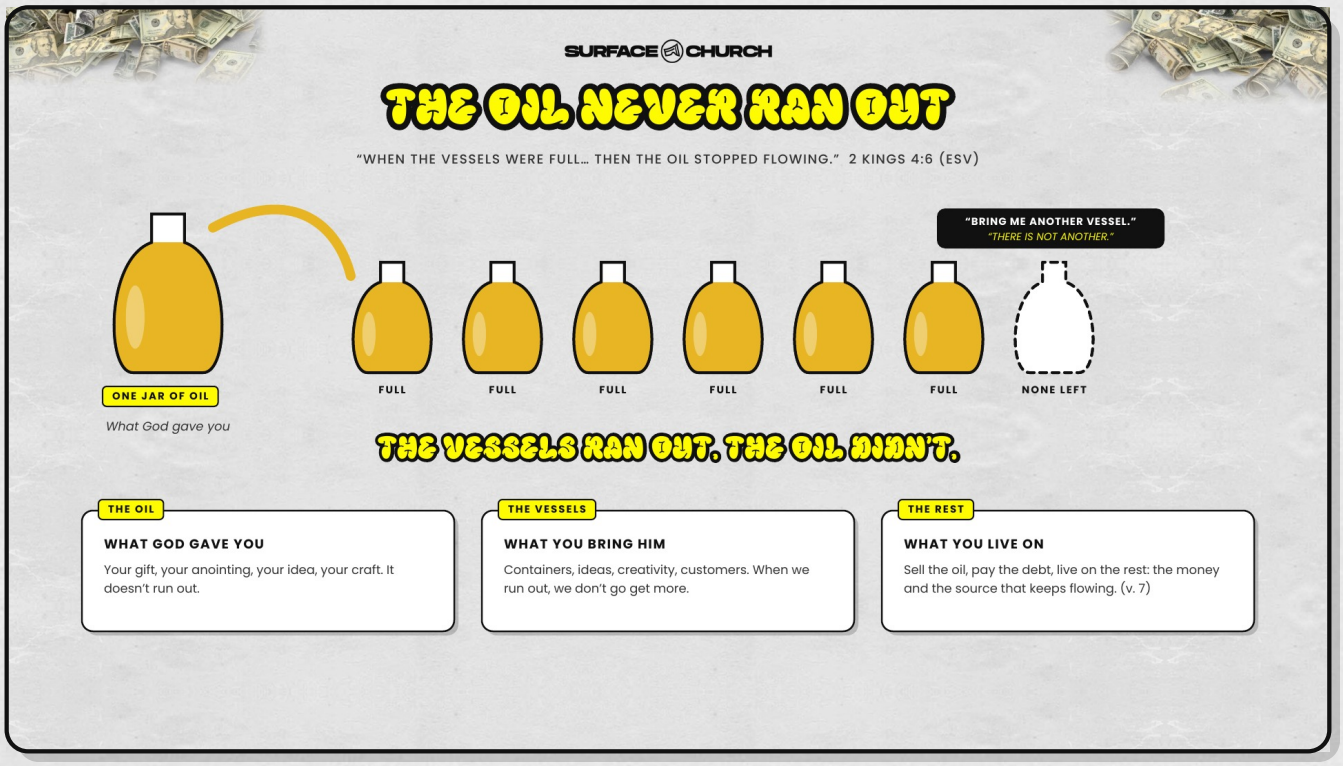
- Your gift
- Your craft
- Your idea
- Your product
- Your skill

NOT ALL DEBT IS BAD DEBT

Borrowing is a form of debt and partnership.
You have to know what to borrow and what to sell.

GOOD DEBT
Borrows a vessel that produces

BAD DEBT
Borrows to consume what doesn't produce



III SELL THE OIL, NOT THE VESSEL

2 KINGS 4:7 · ESV

She came and told the man of God, and he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debts, and you and your sons can live on the rest."

- **The Vessels Were Borrowed:** She borrowed the vessels, so she couldn't sell the vessels. She was selling the oil.
- **Own Your Vessels:** The miracle didn't just take care of the debt. It made her enough to buy her own vessels. If I own my vessels, I can keep filling them, because my oil's not running out.
- **"Live on the Rest":** Not just the rest of the money. Live off the oil, the source that doesn't stop. Look at it from both positions.

You're not selling the vessel. You're selling the oil. The vessel is just the thing that houses the oil.



- **Borrowing:** Borrowing from others is a form of debt and partnership.
- **Good Debt vs. Bad Debt:** Not all debt is bad debt. Good debt borrows a vessel that produces. Bad debt borrows to consume what doesn't produce.

YOU HAVE TO KNOW WHAT TO BORROW AND WHAT TO SELL.

WHAT IF THE OIL IS WHAT'S MAKING YOU RICH?

What do we do when we think the product is what we're selling? We're not selling the product. We're selling our oil.

YOU'RE THE DIFFERENCE. YOU'RE THE EXCEPTION.

? Are you scared to step into an industry because it already exists?

IV THE OVERTHINKER'S TRAP

Overthinking can look like wisdom, but sometimes it's just a refined kind of laziness.

Perfection keeps the idea in your hand instead of in a vessel. It was a document that never got finished because the overthinker was scared to mess it up.

PERFECTION WILL KEEP YOUR OIL IN THE JAR.



V OUTRUN YOUR DEBT

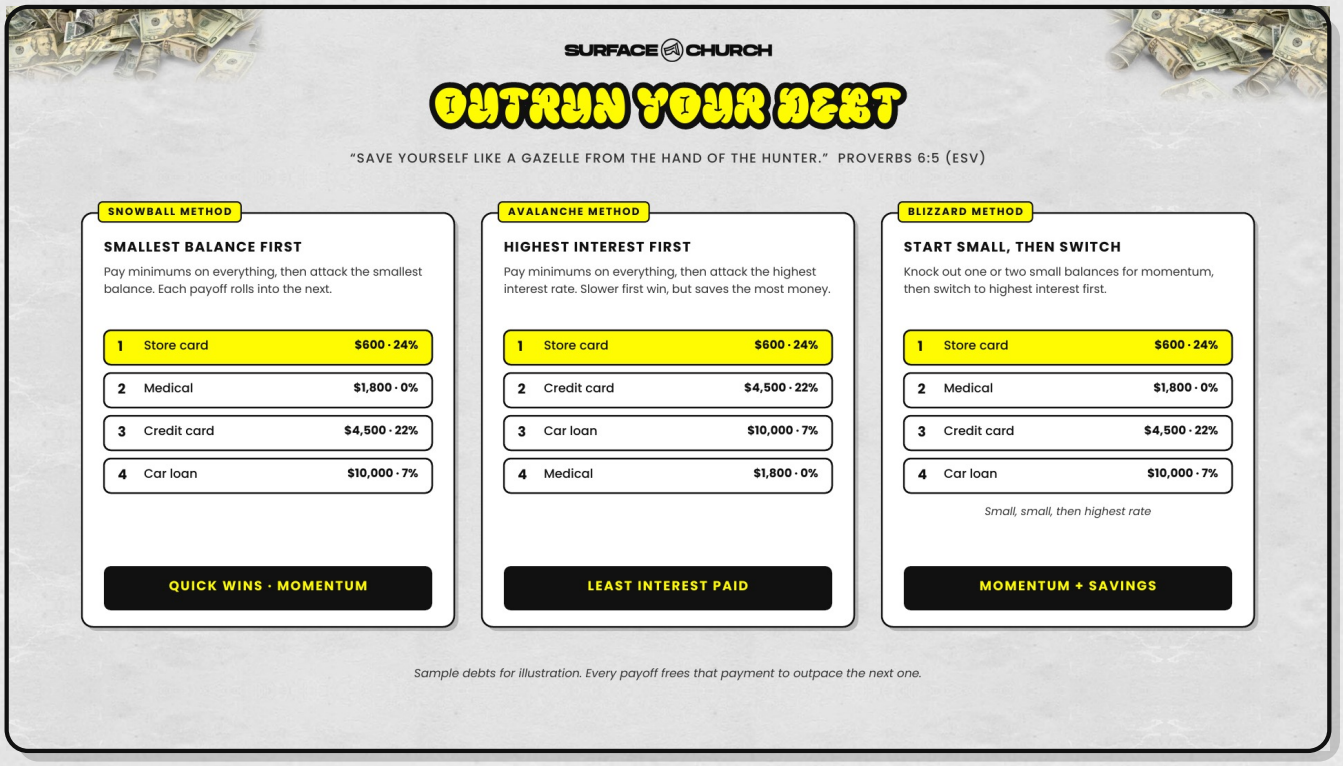
Dave Ramsey talks about the scripture that says to escape debt like a gazelle. You have to outrun it. How do you outrun it? You outpace it.

PROVERBS 6:5 · ESV

save yourself like a gazelle from the hand of the hunter, like a bird from the hand of the fowler.

Context: Proverbs 6:1–5 is about getting free from a debt you've pledged.

If more debt is coming in, you have to outpace your debt. There are three methods you can use to eliminate it:





- **Snowball:** Smallest balance first. Quick wins build margin and momentum.
- **Avalanche:** Highest interest first. It may take longer to get your first win, but it frees up the most money over time.
- **Blizzard:** A hybrid. Start with a small win or two, then switch to highest interest first.
- **A $10,000 Car Loan:** If a $10,000 debt is holding you up, the moment it's paid off, that payment immediately comes back into your life.

STORY · MY SISTER

My sister had $30,000 in student debt, and she got rid of all of it herself before she got married. She developed a system, then she taught it to me. I had no clue, but I learned quickly how to navigate it. There was no school for it.

Learn your credit. Most people don't even know what makes up their credit score:

- **Payment history:** 35%
- **Amounts owed:** 30%
- **Length of credit history:** 15%
- **New credit:** 10%
- **Credit mix:** 10%

Source: myFICO, "What's in my FICO® Scores?"

Know your housing number. A common guideline is to keep housing around 25% of your income, which is why many landlords ask you to make three times the rent.



VI ONE OIL, MANY VESSELS

Joyce Meyer took Battlefield of the Mind and made one for adults, then one for teens, then one for kids. One message, many vessels: a book, a teen edition, a kids book, a curriculum.

- **My Plan:** Release the Seed book first, then the finance book. Then turn each one into teaching for teens and kids.
- **Your Story:** Your life can become a book idea. Your testimony of overcoming can become a vessel.

GOD DIDN'T RUN OUT OF OIL. GO GET MORE VESSELS.

AMOS 9:13–15 · MSG

"Yes indeed, it won't be long now." GOD's Decree. "Things are going to happen so fast your head will swim, one thing fast on the heels of the other. You won't be able to keep up. Everything will be happening at once—and everywhere you look, blessings! Blessings like wine pouring off the mountains and hills. I'll make everything right again for my people Israel: "They'll rebuild their ruined cities. They'll plant vineyards and drink good wine. They'll work their gardens and eat fresh vegetables. And I'll plant them, plant them on their own land. They'll never again be uprooted from the land I've given them." GOD, your God, says so.



? TALK ABOUT IT

? What do you have in your house that you've been calling "nothing"?

? Where have you stopped bringing God vessels: ideas, customers, creativity?

? What's one small beginning you've been avoiding because it doesn't feel like enough?

? What vessel are you going to bring God this week?