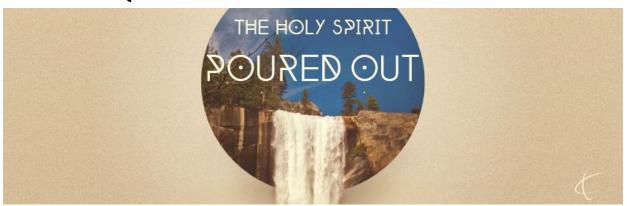
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



These discussion questions are designed to extend the impact of the Sunday message. You can use them for your personal Bible study, family study, and/or small group study.

Overview

Sermon: Keep Pouring

She left him and shut the door behind her and her sons. They brought the jars to her and she kept pouring. When all the jars were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another one."

But he replied, "There is not a jar left." Then the oil stopped flowing. – 2 Kings 4:5-6 (NIV)

In 2 Kings 4, a widow asks for help from the prophet Elisha. Her husband has died and creditors want to take her sons as slaves to work off the family's unpaid debt. Elisha gives her some instructions, she and her son's gather supplies, and God provides a miracle. The widow responded to Elisha's instructions with faith and God responded to her faith and took what little she had and made much of it.

Discussion

- 1. How have you seen God multiply his blessings in your life?
- 2. Elijah asks the widow what she has in her house. Why do you think Elijah asked her to do that? She said she had nothing except a little oil. How can we be guilty of overlooking what we have while longing for what we don't?
- 3. What do you have that God wants to multiply in your life? How can you choose to give it to him in faith?
- 4. The widow and her sons were instructed to ask their neighbors for jars. God could have simply provided a miracle without this action step. Why do you think Elijah asked her to do this first? How might living in community be a part of experiencing God's abundant blessings?
- 5. After they gather the jars the widow and her sons went behind closed doors to pour the oil. Why might the recipients of the miracle need to see it first-hand behind closed doors? How might this have enlivened her testimony when she returned the empty jars to her neighbors? Describe how her community would have celebrated together?

Application

- 6. "I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh." Joel. God wants to fill empty vessels. How might this story of the widow's oil be an example of what God wants to do in your life and the life of your sons and daughters and neighbors through his Holy Spirit?
- 7. God is unlimited in his grace. He wants to fill you with his Spirit. Where in your life have you only gathered a few jars when God wants us to gather many? How can you make a change?

End your time of study with prayer. Pray for each person to go where the Spirit goes.

