

# The Potter's Christian Life Center

SERMON NOTES  
with Pastor Greg Formey



## Having Enough To Change

Luke 21:1-4; 2 Corinthians 8:12

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In previous messages, we had about how God stirs us up so we can grow. There is a rule about the reasons why people finally decide to change:

**Change From Pain:** They hurt enough that they have to.

**Change From Learning:** They learn enough that they want to.

But there is a third big reason: **People change when they receive enough that they are able to.**

### NOT HAVING ENOUGH

The best and most lasting changes happen when a person gets the right facts, the right help, and the right tools.

Many in Bible history found themselves on the short end of the stick when they were faced with impossible odds: Moses, the widow of Zarephath where in the Bible is the story of the widow of Zerafa, Gideon, to name a few.

A big wall keeps us stuck. We think we cannot change because we do not have enough yet. We wait around until some great day arrives when we have more willpower, more money, or better days.

But the truth of the Bible is different: **You can start changing right now, because in Christ, you always have more than you think you do.** The main point is simple: do not wait until you feel completely ready. Start today.

### USING WHAT YOU HAVE RIGHT NOW

Paul fixes this wrong way of thinking in a letter to the church in Corinth.

#### 2 Corinthians 8:12

**Whatever you give is acceptable if you give it eagerly. And give according to what you have, not what you do not have.** NLT

Often, our biggest excuse for staying the same is that we think we lack what we need. We tell ourselves, "If I had more money," if I had more time, "If I had more (fill-in-the-blanks).

It is said that God never asks for a basket of fruit from a tree He did not plant. His power to help you change starts with your willingness right now, using the exact things in your hands today.

We love to play a game of waiting: "When life gets less busy, then I will pray more."  
The Lord has options:

- He will give you the tools before you step out in faith.
- He will ignite your faith to give the "not enough" that is in your hands right now.
- He will give you the tools while you are taking the step.

In Luke 21:1-4, Jesus sits down near the temple money box. He watches crowds of people drop in their money. Rich people walk up and throw in huge bags of coins. Then, a poor widow walks up quietly. She drops in two tiny copper coins that are worth less than a penny.

## HOW WE COUNT VS. HOW GOD COUNTS

Jesus calls His disciples over to teach them a lesson. He says in **Luke 21:3**, "**I tell you the truth, this poor widow has given more than all the others.**"

- **Giving From Poverty:** The rich people gave away money they did not need. But she gave away her very last cent; it was everything she had left to buy food.
- **The Big Shift:** This woman did not wait until she had to start being generous. She knew she had already received enough of God's love to trust Him with her last two coins. She did not act like a helpless victim. She acted like a true worshiper, starting right where she was.

## THE POWER OF TINY HABITS

Scientists who study how the human brain works talk about a problem called a "Scarcity Mindset". This means that when people feel like they do not have enough time, money, or energy, their brains get totally stuck thinking about what is missing. This stuck feeling stops them from making good changes.

To fix this, experts created something called micro-habits.

If you want to get strong and healthy, do not wait until you have enough money for a fancy gym or a two-hour workout plan. Instead, just do two push-ups next to your bed every single morning.

If you want to write a whole book, do not wait for a perfect, quiet vacation. Just write one short sentence on your phone while you wait for the bus.

Modern science proves that 2 Corinthians 8:12 is true. Making a real change does not require a giant mountain of extra stuff. It just requires taking the tiny bit of time, strength, or help you do have and using it right away. When you use the small tool in your hand, God gives you the strength for more.