

Summary

Pastor Mike addresses the universal feeling of 'not enough' that many Christians experience when confronting overwhelming needs in the world. He shares how during mission trips to Mexico, he would feel both joy at helping one family and despair at seeing how many more needed help. This feeling of inadequacy often paralyzes Christians from taking action, with research showing that while most Christians want to make a difference, only 25% actually do something because they don't believe their contribution will be significant.

Through the story of Elijah and the widow of Zarephath from 1 Kings 17, the pastor illustrates how God can take what seems like 'not enough' in our hands and turn it into 'more than enough' in His hands. The widow, despite having only enough flour and oil for one final meal, trusted God by first providing for Elijah, and God miraculously sustained her family. The message challenges listeners to trust God with whatever they have—their time, talents, or resources—rather than withholding because it seems too small to make a difference.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, as we gather to discuss Your ability to multiply our offerings, we ask that You open our hearts to Your truth. Help us recognize the ways we've held back because we felt what we had to give wasn't enough. Give us the courage of the widow of Zarephath, who trusted You with her last meal. May our discussion today challenge us to release our 'handful of flour' into Your capable hands, knowing You can do immeasurably more than we could ever imagine. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Ice Breaker

What's something small that someone once did for you that ended up making a big difference in your life?

Key Verses

1. 1 Kings 17:13-14
2. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8
3. Matthew 6:31-33

Questions

1. When have you felt like what you had to offer (time, talent, resources) wasn't enough to make a real difference?
2. The pastor mentioned that 'God so often provides through unlikely people in the most unlikely places.' When have you seen this principle at work in your own life?
3. What is your 'handful of flour'—something that might seem insignificant but God might be asking you to trust Him with?

4. The widow received 'just enough' provision each day, not an overflowing supply. How might God be using the 'just enough' moments in your life to build your faith?
5. Why do you think we tend to trust God with some areas of our lives but struggle to trust Him with our resources?
6. The pastor mentioned that 'faith is often unreasonable.' When have you been called to step out in faith in a way that didn't make logical sense?
7. How might our community change if every believer brought their 'little bit of good' to the table instead of being paralyzed by the magnitude of problems?
8. What's one specific way you could trust God this week with something you've been holding back because it seemed too small to matter?

Life Application

This week, identify your 'handful of flour'—something you've been hesitant to offer God because it seems too small or insignificant to make a difference. It might be your time, a talent, or financial resources. Once you've identified it, take a step of faith by offering it to God in a tangible way. Perhaps volunteer for that ministry you've been considering, use your talent to bless someone, or give financially to a cause God has placed on your heart. As you do, pray specifically for God to multiply your offering beyond what you could imagine. Keep a journal of how God works through your small offering, and come prepared next week to share how this step of faith impacted you and others.

Key Takeaways

1. God can take what seems like 'not enough' in our hands and turn it into 'more than enough' in His hands.
2. We often hesitate to act because we don't believe our contribution will make a significant difference in the face of overwhelming needs.
3. God isn't asking us for what we don't have—He's asking us to trust Him with what we do have.
4. When we collectively bring our 'little bits of good' together, we can make a tremendous impact for God's kingdom.
5. Faith often requires us to trust God before we see His provision, not after.

Ending Prayer

Lord God, thank You for reminding us that You are the God of multiplication. We confess that we've often held back our time, talents, and resources because we didn't think they were enough to make a difference. Forgive us for our lack of faith. Like the widow who trusted You with her last meal, help us to release what we have into Your hands. We believe that You can do immeasurably more than we could ask or imagine with our small offerings. Give us the courage to step out in unreasonable faith this week, trusting that when we seek Your kingdom first, You will provide everything we need. May our collective acts of faithfulness overwhelm our world with the beauty of Your kingdom. In Jesus' name, Amen.