

Nothing but a Small Jar

July 22, 2018 Guest Speaker Carissa Fernald

Jesus: "I have come to give you everything in abundance, more than you expect — life in its fullness until you overflow!"

John 10:10 (TPT)

"The wife of a man from the company of the prophets cried out to Elisha, 'Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that he revered the LORD. But now his creditor is coming to take my two boys as his slaves."

2 Kings 4:1 (NIV)

WE FEEL EMPTY WHEN...

1. LIFE <u>TAKES</u> FROM US.

"Elisha replied to her, 'How can I help you? Tell me, what do you have in your house?' 'Your servant has <u>nothing</u> there at all,' she said, 'except a small jar of olive oil.'"

2 Kings 4:2 (NIV)

2. FOCUSED ON OUR LACK.

"But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed."

2 Corinthians 4:7-9 (NIV)

"But—When God our Savior revealed his kindness and love, he saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit. He generously poured out the Spirit upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior. Because of his grace he made us right in his sight and gave us confidence that we will inherit eternal life."

Titus 3:4-7 (NLT)

"Elisha said, 'Go around and ask all your neighbors for empty jars. Don't ask for just a few. Then go inside and shut the door behind you and your sons. Pour oil into all the jars, and as each is filled, put it to one side."

2 Kings 4:3-4 (NIV)

3. TRYING TO BE SELF - SUFFICIENT.

"Unfulfilled longings serve to deepen the well of our desire for God." – Alicia Britt Chole

Jesus: "But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."

Matthew 6:6 (NIV)

TO EXPERIENCE ABUNDANT LIFE, I MUST...

1. GET IN HIS PRESENCE.

"She left him and shut the door behind her and her sons. They brought the jars to her and <u>she kept pouring</u>."

2 Kings 4:5 (NIV)

"Trust in him at all times, you people; <u>pour out your hearts</u> <u>to him</u>, for God is our refuge."

Psalm 62:8 (NIV)

"Yet we don't see ourselves as capable enough to do anything in our own strength, for our true competence flows from God's empowering presence."

2 Corinthians 3:5 (TPT)

"When <u>all the jars were full</u>, 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 4:6 (NIV)

2. FULLY SURRENDER.

"Everything you speak to me is like joyous treasure, filling my life with gladness. I have determined in my heart to obey whatever you say, fully and forever!"

Psalm 119:111-112 (TPT)

"She went and told the man of God, and he said, 'Go, sell the oil and pay your debts. You and your sons can live on what is left.""

2 Kings 4:7 (NIV)

3. PRACTICE STEWARDSHIP.

Jesus: "To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance."

Matthew 25:29 (NLT)