

Joke: A professional juggler, driving to his next performance, is stopped by the police for speeding. "What are you doing with these matches and lighter fluid in your car?" asks the police officer.

"I'm a juggler and I juggle flaming torches in my act."

"Oh yeah? Let's see you do it," says the officer. So the juggler gets out and starts juggling the blazing torches masterfully.

A couple driving by slows down to watch. "Wow," says the driver to his wife. "I'm glad I quit drinking. Look at the test they're giving now!"

2 Kings 4:1–7 (NIV) - 4 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.” ²Elisha replied to her, “How can I help you? Tell me, what do you have in your house?” “Your servant has nothing there at all,” she said, “except a small jar of olive oil.” ³Elisha said, “Go around and ask all your neighbors for empty jars. Don’t ask for just a few. ⁴Then 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.” ⁵She left him and shut the door behind her and her sons. They brought the jars to her and she kept pouring. ⁶When 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.⁷ 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.”

This woman finds herself in a season of her life that she was certain was going to end her life.

She has lost her husband, felt like she was about to lose her sons, she was in debt. No doubt she felt pretty hopeless. I’m sure she was desperate for a miracle.

Hear this church each one of us will go through seasons we wish we didn’t have to, but it’s often the times in the seemingly barren season that God steps in and fills us up.

Don’t allow the troubling seasons to rob you of the good ones God has planned out for you.

So, in her troubled moment she cries out to Elisha, and we see his response in verse 2. . .

²Elisha replied to her, “How can I help you? Tell me, what do you have in your house?”

See responds with, “Your servant has nothing there at all,” she said, “except a small jar of olive oil.”

I love this. . .she saw nothing but a small jar of oil. But the prophet saw more than enough.

It doesn't matter what you may think you have; God can use what you have. All you need to do is allow Him to use it because the God I serve is a God of more than enough.

Heaven has more than enough resources to take care of your situation. More than enough grace to take care of your regrets. More than enough to bring about your victory. More than enough for you to see your breakthrough.

But when we focus on our insufficiencies, we often times won't recognize or appreciate what we already have.

It's interesting what we miss when all we see is impossibility.

But the Scripture tells us, "with God all things are possible."

And you may think what you have is not much, the apostles only a boy with a lunch, she only saw a small jar of oil, but the prophet saw vessels full.

That ordinary thing you have that you count as nothing, when you allow the power of God to come upon it, you can be sure an extraordinary breakthrough is on the way!

Don't underestimate your potential, that small thing that you did not see as important or useful, that thing you overlooked can be your way to breakthrough. That "LITTLE OIL" God can use that.

She underestimated what she already had. Don't miss this revelation: Every empty vessel that was filled, came from a little pot of oil that was already in the house.

Hear this church, there's a miracle in your House!

Look again at verse 3. . .

³Elisha said, "Go around and ask all your neighbors for empty jars. Don't ask for just a few.

Make sure they are empty vessels; get as many as you can.

Sometimes, we're just not empty enough. Sometimes we are too full of ourselves so God has no room for Himself.

God is searching for empty vessels. Not just a few, as many as he can find so that He can pour out His Spirit upon all who will come to Him wanting to be full of Him.

Look again at verse 4. . .

⁴Then 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.”

After she borrowed empty vessels, not just a few, she was told go back home and shut the door.

Listen Church, there are some things that God cannot do in the midst of doubters, or when you are full of the distractions.

Jesus had everyone except a couple of disciples and the parents around when He raised a girl back to life. He told everyone else to wait outside.

Sometimes, we have to shut the door behind us, seek God in us and cut off some relationships around us before the oil will begin to flow through us.

And sometimes, we must close the door behind us before God reveals his revelations to us.

When you need a miracle, when you need a breakthrough, you need the right people around you. You have to know who to shut in and who to shut out, your greatest opposition going to the next level in God will come from people that can't see what you can see, can't hear what you can hear, so they can't believe that God can do what you are believing Him for.

The wrong people will rob you of your miracle and ridicule you out of your healing.

Besides that, the creditors were on the way. She had to close the door behind them so that she could bless them when they arrived.

Sometimes it's behind closed doors that God can show us what we need, and how we need to respond to the things we see in our circumstances.

Verse 5. . .

“She left him and shut the door behind her and her sons. They brought the jars to her and she kept pouring.”

You need people around you who will stay with you even when it doesn't make sense. You need people around you that believe in you, even if they can't see what you see, they believe that you see it and they will encourage you to go for it.

They brought the jars to her and she kept pouring.

They could have questioned it all, mom this is silly what are we doing you barely have enough oil in the original jar, and your asking us for more.

But they didn't. . .

Verse 6. . .

⁶When 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.

It wasn't until all the jars were filled that the oil stopped pouring.

Sometimes we think God is not moving, but could it be that you gave Him all you were willing to give, and the jars became too full to hold more oil.

When all the vessels in the widow's house were full, the oil ceased flowing.

So it is with us as well, if we allow our pride, our selfishness, our bitterness and unforgiveness to fill us, we may not have space left for God to pour His oil out for us.

Some of us may need to empty ourselves of us, so that God can fill us with Him.

John the Baptist said it this way, "I must decrease so that He can increase."

And church never stop until your full.

I think we have too many Brylcreem Christians in the Body of Christ.

Maybe your asking what in the world are you talking about pastor?

Glad you asked, Brylcreem was invented in 1928 it used to hold your hair in place, and the slogan for it was "Brylcreem, a little dab'll do ya."

But truth is church, I want more then a little dab. I want all that God has for me so I will bring Him all the empty jars that I can so that He can fill them with more of Him.

God desires to bless you. He wants to walk with you, touch others through you, and speak to them through you. Let them see Jesus in you, so that they have the opportunity to encounter Jesus through you.

And when you get full you'll walk different, you'll talk different, you'll sing different, you'll preach different, you'll pray different.

When you get full of His Spirit it will affect every part of your life.

And here's some good news, there is always more. You just need to bring Him more emptiness.

Verse 7. . .

"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."

When we allow God to fill us with Him. When we learn to trust Him, lean upon Him, allow Him to do what only He can do. It frees us from feeling empty, alone, we can pay off that debt of regret and shame because we know and understand that the cross was sufficient and His promises are true.

He tells us freely you have received freely give.

And when we give, God refills. . .

So, share what Jesus did for us so others can come with us.

Testify of His goodness, so that others can be healed of their brokenness.

We can pray for their healing and see them walk in freedom.

We can tell them about His Spirit, so others can encounter His presence.

And He just refills us with more of Him so we can help others encounter more of Him.