

WHEN ALL
YOU NEED
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When You Just Can't See a Way

March 12, 2023 Message Notes

TEXT: 2 KINGS 4

When we take a step of faith that shows we are putting our resources in God's hands, miracles can happen. When we just can't see a way, we are to trust God and live by faith not sight. What is empty in your life you'd like to see God fill?



NOTES

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.”

Ephesians 3:20-21

Bible stories are invitations to us to get in its time machine and learn from its sacred truth what God has for us right now.

When You Just Can't See a Way

2 Kings 4 is the ministry of Elisha, now walking in the double-portion of the Spirit of Elijah, but also into two scenes of desperation.

“The wife of a man from the company of the prophets cried out to Elisha, ‘Your servant, my husband’s dead. And you know that he revered the Lord. Now his creditor is coming to take my two boys as his slaves.’”

2 Kings 4:1

She can't see a way out so she cries out to the man of God.

“What do you have in your house?”

2 Kings 4:2

God starts with where we are and what we have.

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

2 Kings 4:3-4

“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.’ He replied, ‘There’s not a jar left.’ Then the oil stopped flowing.”

2 Kings 4:6



“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's left.’”

2 Kings 4:7

**Start where you are. Use what you have. Seek God's wisdom. Do what he says.
When you just can't see your way, trust God and live by faith not sight.**

Keep bringing your empties and let God fill them as he wills.

“Have faith, my friend. There's water down below. You've got to give until you get.” – Desert Pete

What does God say? There's a miracle promise tied to generosity.

“Ask and you will receive.”

Matthew 7:7

“Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap.”

Luke 6:38

When You Just Can't See a Way...

You conquer the fear of scarcity with the faith of generosity. But you won't be able to see it until you do it. Take a step of faith that shows you are putting your resources in God's hands, and then see what happens.

“I know that this man who often comes our way is a holy man of God. Let's make a small room on the roof and put a bed and a table, a chair and a lamp for him. Then he can stay there whenever he comes to us.”

2 Kings 4:9-10

The Shunamite woman and her husband practiced generosity and were well-to-do but were getting older and had no children.

“‘About this time next year,’ Elisha said, ‘you will hold a son in your arms.’ ‘No, my lord! Don't mislead your servant, O man of God!’”

2 Kings 4:16

“If you don't get your hopes up, then you won't be so disappointed when they don't happen.”



“One day he went out to his father, who was with the reapers. He said, ‘My head! My head!’ His father told a servant, ‘Carry him to his mother.’ ”

2 Kings 4:18-19

The boy passed away in his mother’s arms. She placed him on Elisha’s bed and went to find him, in bitter distress.

“He (Elisha) went in, shut the door on the two of them and prayed to the Lord...”

2 Kings 4:33

“The boy sneezed seven times and opened his eyes.”

2 Kings 4:35

What do you do when you're hurting and disappointed and can't see the way forward?

Start where you are. Use what you have. Seek God’s wisdom. Do what he says.

When you just can’t see your way, trust God and live by faith not sight.

Why does she tell her husband and Elisha’s servant, everything's all right, when it obviously wasn’t? Have you ever felt: why waste words when it seems they are not listening?

This story is also about an absent father. Both stories are – one by death, the other by choice.

What if we were the kind of men who decided that we're going to be there for our wives and families? Where women felt like they could share their pain and be heard? Where the other priorities of life like work, success, even our own pain, wasn't allowed to stunt our love for God and our families? Where when our kids are hurting, make mistakes, or go astray - they can count on us to show the way?

What if we were the kind of men who “get in a room with God and shut the door” until God opens it into our new future? Who don't leave it to women to do the work of faith?

There's so much more than we can see - just like in our lives.

Are you willing today to let Jesus show you something you're not seeing?

What if you were to ask Jesus right now, Lord, what am I not seeing that you want to show me? Are there fears of scarcity, disappointment with God over broken dreams, hopes dashed?

What happens to a family when the father’s not there? Our heavenly Father still is. God can be trusted. He loves you, adores you, and delights in you. He gets you. Nobody knows your pain like he does.



“If you seek me you will find me when you seek me with all your heart.”

Jeremiah 29:13

Brothers, what is Jesus calling you to do? Rediscover your family? Your faith? Sisters, is it time to trust God and keep trusting until he comes through? Take a risk of generosity?

**Start where you are. Use what you have. Seek God’s wisdom. Do what he says.
When you just can’t see your way, trust God and live by faith not sight.**

Is it time to put your faith in action?

- Start here where you are.
- Use what you have - prayer, faith, worship, the legs to get up and come to God's altar and pray.
- Give thanks.
- Bring it all to Jesus and watch him work.

Let God show up for you.

