

2 Kings 4:1-7
Bring Your Empty Vessels To God

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Vessels To God

1. Acknowledge Your Own Emptiness
(v1-2)

Luke 18

9 Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: 10 “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

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A full Christ is for empty sinners, and for empty sinners only, and as long as there is a really empty soul in a congregation so long will a blessing go forth with the word, and no longer. It is not our emptiness, but our fullness which can hinder the outgoings of free grace.

Charles Spurgeon, Sermon On 2 Kings 4

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1. Acknowledge Your Own Emptiness (v1-2)
2. Present Many Empty Vessels To God (v3-6)

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2. Present Many Empty Vessels To God
(v3-6)

The question is never about the amount of oil, but of the empty vessels. We fear that there will not be enough oil; God is concerned lest we fail to bring sufficient vessels to hold all He wants to give.

F. B. Meyer, Through The Bible Day By Day

2 Kings 3
Spiritual Disciplines
Are Faith Filled Trenches

1. Dig Trenches In God's Word
2. Dig Trenches In Prayer
3. Dig Trenches In Fellowship
4. Dig Trenches In Worship
5. Dig Trenches In Service
6. Dig Trenches For Healing
7. Dig Trenches In Endurance
8. Dig Trenches In Giving

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Matthew 6

- 9 In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.
10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.
11 Give us this day our daily bread.
12 And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.

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2. Present Many Empty Vessels To God
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While there was a vessel to fill, there was oil sufficient; and it only ceased to flow when there was no vessel to receive it. This is a good emblem of the grace of God. While there is an empty, longing heart, there is a continual overflowing fountain. If we find in any place or at any time that the oil ceases to flow, it is because there are no empty vessels there, no souls hungering and thirsting for righteousness.

Adam Clarke, Clarke's Commentary On The Whole Bible

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2. Present Many Empty Vessels To God (v3-6)
3. Be Open About Your Emptiness (v3-5)

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3. Be Open About Your Emptiness
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2 Corinthians 12

8 Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me.

9 And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. **10** Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

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3. Be Open About Your Emptiness
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4. Live In The Fullness Of God (v7)

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4. Live In The Fullness Of God
(v7)

The Lord doesn't always perform miracles of this kind to help us pay our debts, but He does meet our needs if we trust and obey. If we give everything to Him, He can make a little go a long way.

Warren Wiersbe, "Be" Commentary Series

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4. Live In The Fullness Of God
(v7)

You have God in the measure in which you desire Him. Only remember that the desire that brings God must be more than a feeble, fleeting wish. Lazily wishing and strenuously desiring are two entirely different postures of mind; the former gets nothing and the latter gets everything, gets God, and with God all that God can bring.

Alexander MacLaren, MacLaren's Expositions of Holy Scripture

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This woman is not a solitary instance; she is one of a great multitude for whom the Lord has worked graciously. It is the rule of God's providence that his children should cry to him in the day of trouble and that he should be gracious to them and deliver them.

Charles Spurgeon, The Spurgeon Study Bible Notes