



# overflow with God

God wants us to experience His overflowing abundance of favor. He pours out His love, joy, peace, and more into our lives so that it overflows into the lives of others around us. But how come many of us experience emptiness, drought, and lack in our lives? How can we experience the abundance and overflow that God wants for us? Let us learn from the story of Elisha and the widow's oil in 2 Kings 4:1-7.

## **empty me** (2 Kings 4:1-2)

For God to make us overflow, we must empty ourselves of self-reliance, self-sufficiency, and self-confidence. Just like the widow's desperate cries for help to the prophet Elisha, we must acknowledge our need for God and seek Him in humility – emptying ourselves of pride and seeking His guidance and direction for our life because He loves us and will rescue us when we depend and call upon Him (Psalm 50:15)! In response to the widow, Elisha asked, “What shall I do for you?” and “What do you have?”. All that the widow had was a jar of oil. God is asking us the same question today. How little we have doesn't matter, the only thing that matters is that we surrender ALL to Him! He uses whatever we present to Him to help us overcome our circumstances. When we are empty, God fills us with His grace to move on.

## **clean me** (2 Kings 4:3)

Elisha instructed the widow as God showed him (2 Kings 4:3). The widow followed Elisha's advice and went to her neighbors to borrow as many empty, clean, and usable vessels as possible. We are like vessels. For God to make us overflow, we must be empty and clean. We can do this by coming to God in prayer (Psalm 139:23-24), examining ourselves (Joel 2:12), and repenting of our sins (James 4:8). Sin separates us from God and keeps us from being filled by Him, but repentance restores our fellowship with God. When we spend time with the Lord, our eyes will be opened to see the blind spots and the areas in our life that need His cleansing. God's desire is to help us, but we must be willing to change. Through prayer we are empowered

### this week's memory verse

If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children,  
how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those  
who ask Him?

LUKE 11:13

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and transformed by God, which leads to spiritual victory that will attract and influence the people around us. When we are clean, Christ covers the cracks in our cup.

### fill me (2 Kings 4:4-7)

Elisha gave specific instructions for the widow to pour oil from her jar to the jars that were gathered one by one. Each jar was filled to the brim and the oil did not run out. It overflowed until there were no empty vessels left! The moment we stop surrendering our lives to God may be the time that He stops filling us with His blessings. God's supply will always meet the measure of our faith. An overflowing life is all about total surrender. When we receive Jesus as our Savior, we have the Holy Spirit indwelling our life. He is not just a resident, but the President of your life. Letting Him be the Lord of our lives means honoring Him and using His blessing for the purpose He intended. Just like the widow who was told to sell the oil and pay her debt (2 Kings 4:7), our lives must demonstrate the grace, blessing, and the power of God to those who are lost around us. God blesses us to overflow and to be a blessing to others.

This 2022, may we overflow with hope through the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13). Don't live on empty. Overflow with God. Be humble. Be repentant. Be surrendered.

### discussion questions

If God asked you today, "What do you need?" and "What do you have?", what will you answer Him?

When God gives a command that doesn't sound logical, how do you obey it?

What is God asking you to surrender to Him so that He can fill you to overflowing?

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