

Pastor Ron Case
10/5/14

“What Do You Have”?

*“Better is the little that the righteous has than the abundance of many wicked.”
(Psalm 37:16)*

The Miniscule & the Miraculous

1 Kings 17:10-15 – (10) “So [*Elijah*] arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, ‘Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.’ (11) And as she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, ‘Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.’ (12) And she said, ‘As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. And now I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die.’ (13) And Elijah said to her, ‘Do not fear; go and do as you have said. But first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. (14) For thus says the LORD the God of Israel, ‘The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the LORD sends rain upon the earth.’ (15) And she went and did as Elijah said. And she and he and her household ate for many days.”

<p>Key Point: The little we have, committed to God, is leveraged to much</p>

The Multiplier Effector

Mark 8:1-9 – (1) “In those days, when again a great crowd had gathered, and they had nothing to eat, he called his disciples to him and said to them, (2) ‘I have compassion on the crowd, because they have been with me now three days and have nothing to eat. (3) And if I send them away hungry to their homes, they will faint on the way. And some of them have come from far away.’ (4) And his disciples answered him, ‘How can one feed these people with bread here in this desolate place?’ (5) And he asked them, ‘How many loaves do you have?’ They said, ‘Seven.’ (6) And he directed the crowd to sit down on the ground. And he took the seven loaves, and having given thanks, he broke them and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; and they set them before the crowd. (7) And they had a few small fish. And having blessed them, he said that these also should be set before

them. (8) And they ate and were satisfied. And they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. (9) And there were about four thousand people. And he sent them away.”

Let Jesus Use Your Boat

“On one occasion, while the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, and he saw two boats by the lake, but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon’s, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat.” (Luke 5:1-3)

Benefits of letting Jesus use your boat:

(1) Provision

“And when he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, ‘Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.’ And Simon answered, ‘Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets.’ And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink.” (Luke 5:4-7)

(2) Perspective

“But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, ‘Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord.’” (Luke 5:8)

(3) Purpose

“For all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish that they had taken, and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, ‘Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men.’” (Luke 5:9-10)

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

What is the Kingdom ‘provision principle’? (Matt. 6:33; Luke 6:38)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)