



Bricks & Stones | This House | Jimmy Rollins
Weekly Study | 12.1.19

START

To get things started, go around the circle and answer the following question:

What is your favorite childhood memory of the holidays?

SHARE

This weekend we had guest, Pastor Jimmy Rollins continue in our series, Bricks & Stones. He reminded us that no matter what small amounts of faith or gifting that is in our house, it is more than enough for God. God wants to use what little we have to make it overflow to be a blessing to others for future generations.

What was one thing that God revealed to you after listening to Jimmy Rollins message?

GROW

Read 2 Kings 4: 1-2

What is one thing that you realize about this woman's faith in this story?

But the creditor has come and is threatening to take..." Jesus would later communicate to His disciples in John 10:10, "the thief comes to steal, kill and destroy." In the story, the woman cannot pay her debts due to the loss of her husband, and the creditor is threatening to take her two children as his slaves. Can you imagine the loss that has already befallen her? This cannot happen. Not her children too! But she thinks she has nothing to offer. Their house was filled with so much loss and real need for she cannot pay her debts! Elisha then asks her,

“What shall I do for you? Then asks, tell me; what have you in the house? She answered, NOTHING! I do not have anything, except a jar of oil.

Even in the midst of death, confusion, and pain God still will move within a house. You see, the widow was aware of her desperation, she was humble as she asked for help. She did have enough faith to seek God to do something so that she can leave a legacy to the next generation. This widow was not going down without a fight. Imagine being in her shoes, maybe you don't have to imagine. Maybe you know the desperation for something better. Maybe you know the pain of loss. Wherever we may be, if we settle in a minute, we can all feel the desperation in different ways.

Have you ever experienced a time where you have felt like your hope has been robbed and your faith and joy are just on empty?

How did you see God restore you and support you through that time?

This woman was passionate about her family, it was not selfish and self-seeking. She was about her children and her children's children. Even in the midst of deep pain in their house, her passion was about others! She understood the heart of God. The entire bible is about others. A truth Jesus later would embed deeply into His teaching, “Love God and Love people” (Mark 12:30-31).

How different does your everyday life look like when you put the focus on others and not just yourself?

Why is it hard to put the focus on others in our modern-day culture? What are some of the contributing factors to a self-focused culture?

M O V E

Read 2 Kings 4:3-6

The widow knew the situation was dire. She knew she desperately needed a miracle. But she did realize that she had some oil! This moment can easily get lost in our modern understanding of the world and our modern rhetoric. Jimmy's second point was that this

house is **anointed!** The oil represents anointing! She may not have much, or even anything at this point in her life, but she has some oil! “Some oil” is THE OPPORTUNITY FOR AN OUTPOUR!

Her instructions were to “go outside, borrow vessels from your neighbors, empty vessels and not too few.” Wait a minute here, I have very little and you want me to go and “borrow” more empty jars full of nothing? She is well aware of her lack and was well aware she didn’t have the ability to fill her own pots and jars with oil, let alone additional jars from the neighbors. Who can fill us up where we lack? This is why we need Jesus! The one who provides what we really need most. The creditor takes, but God borrows in this story. GOD NEVER ASKS FOR ANYTHING THAT HE DOESN’T PLAN TO USE AND FILL.

After collecting empty jars, they were to return home, shut the door and pour into all the vessels that had been collected. Pour what exactly into the jars? The woman was told to pour the little oil from her jar that she had left into the borrowed jars and when one would fill up, set it aside and begin filling the next one. In their obedience and faith, God was faithful, and they received their miracle. The oil kept flowing! The anointing kept flowing.

As Jimmy stated, “This house is where miracles happen.”

Why is God going to use me? When will God use me? We don’t have the ability to fill ourselves. Find the right house where the oil is being poured out. Maybe she recognized that her last bit of oil was the first for the next. That this oil is not just for them, but also for others to experience the miracle as well!

2 KINGS 4:3-4 “And Elisha said, “Borrow as many empty jars as you can from your friends and neighbors. Then go into your house with your sons and shut the door behind you. Pour olive oil from your flask into the jars, setting each one aside when it is filled” (NLT). THE OIL IS THE OPPORTUNITY FOR AN OUTPOUR!

No matter where you may find yourself today, know that God wants us to come to Him in our desperation, with the little we have and trust Him to fill us up. Let us remember, “our not enough, is just enough, for more than enough.”

Has there ever been a time in your life that you knew the Holy Spirit was asking you to give up something or offer something back to God that seemed illogical? What did you

learn about God and yourself through that experience? (*Examples: Volunteering time, stepping out to use your talents or gifting, investing of your resources back to the house of God*)

This week, consider looking into your own house, what gifts, abilities and resources can you offer back to God? Is there an area where God is prompting you to offer something back this year?

P R A Y

As a group, spend some time praying for each other. If you are in a co-ed group, it can be helpful to break up into two groups in order to share more easily about your prayer request.

T O G O

And he answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.” - Luke 10:27