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Ajar Faith



Crystalene Reyes

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A Mini ebook

Crystalene
Reyes

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Text Extract

2 Kings 4: 1 - 7

4 Now there cried a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets unto Elisha, saying, Thy servant my husband is dead; and thou knowest that thy servant did fear the Lord: and the creditor is come to take unto him my two sons to be bondmen.

2 And Elisha said unto her, What shall I do for thee? tell me, what hast thou in the house? And she said, Thine handmaid hath not any thing in the house, save a pot of oil.

3 Then he said, Go, borrow thee vessels abroad of all thy neighbours, even empty vessels; borrow not a few.

4 And when thou art come in, thou shalt shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons, and shalt pour out into all those vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is full.

5 So she went from him, and shut the door upon her and upon her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured out.

6 And it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said unto her son, Bring me yet a vessel. And he said unto her, There is not a vessel more. And the oil stayed.

7 Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, Go, sell the oil, and pay thy debt, and live thou and thy children of the rest.

Ajar Faith



There are seasons in life when pressure closes in from every side—when the bills pile up, the options run out, and even prayer feels like a whisper into the wind. It's in these moments that we discover the true nature of faith: not loud or flashy, but quiet, steady, and often born out of desperation. Faith doesn't always kick doors wide open—it holds on when there's just a sliver of light. This is the space where God meets us. This is the space where a widow once stood, crushed under the weight of loss and debt, with nothing left but hope in a passing prophet... and the remnants of a miracle waiting in a jar.

Let's take a moment to examine the context of this widow's circumstance. Here is Elisha, a ninth

century B.C. prophet of Israel, who is the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah. He is like a magnet. He draws needy people to himself. On the other hand, we have a helpless, vulnerable widow, helpless in the sense that she is now a woman without a male advocate in a patri-archal society. Her husband is dead and her two sons are about to be taken captive as payment for their father's debts. Now, it is important for us to understand that to be a widow in those days was a challenge in itself but to be a widow in debt was to be like prey. You see, in those days, widows and orphans lacked the economic, legal and physical protection that was traditionally provided by men. This woman, whose husband has died, now had no support structure and debt slavery of her sons was to be her portion. She was truly caught between what we call 'a rock and a hard place'. Though she had no bank in which to go, in order to get a loan, and no reserves to tap into, she

held on to the hope that a man of God, the prophet, Elisha, was going to be passing by.

Now, to be a prophet in those days was no easy shoe to fill. To be a prophet was to fill the role of a king. When God set up kingship, he set it up in a way so that kings may reveal what God's Kingship was like but as the kings of Israel and Judah failed to approach the ideal of the kingship like God intended, God began to display his kingship through the prophets instead of through the kings. In Elisha, this destitute woman saw hope and she cried out to him for help. Finally, the day came when the widow would have her opportunity! At the passing of Elisha, a man of humble means, the widow placed herself in the position to depict her situation. After the hearing, Elisha, then turned to her and asked her the question, "What shall I do for thee? Tell me, what hast thou in the house?" To which she responds, "Your maidservant has nothing in the

house but a jar of oil." Little did she know that the things that we have that seem to be so little is exactly the thing that we can use?

It is at this point in the narrative that everything begins to shift. The moment prophetic instruction meets radical obedience, transformation begins. This widow—broken, desperate, and surrounded by despair—hears a word from the man of God. Elisha tells her to do something seemingly odd: gather empty jars. What could this possibly do for her? But here's where heaven starts to invade earth. Because sometimes, God only needs our participation to activate a miracle. And so, she obeys.

Let us pause and consider: a little boy's lunch with a few loaves and fish fed a multitude. Jesus took what was offered and multiplied it to meet the needs of thousands. The same principle applies here: what you have may not seem like enough for

the journey ahead—but if you are willing to surrender it, God is willing to use it. Two fish and five loaves were all it took in the hands of the Savior. Likewise, just a jar of oil—surrendered in obedience—was enough to unlock heaven’s provision.

Elisha instructed, “Go, borrow vessels from everywhere, from all your neighbors—empty vessels; do not gather just a few.” This wasn’t just about gathering jars. This was about faith in action. God requires us to move—to fish. In Matthew 4:19, Jesus says, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.” The command to fish is one of active pursuit, of outreach, of believing that what you cast out will return multiplied.

Have you ever observed a fisherman? They do not discriminate. They do not fish only in perfect conditions or with perfect bait. They go where the water is. They cast their nets or drop their lines. They are patient, intentional, and focused. Once we

proclaim to be followers of Christ, our task is no different. We must fish—not just for opportunities, but for empty vessels. We are called to look for those who need hope, healing, and the Word of the Lord. Our job is to seek out opportunities—to counsel, to teach, to preach, to give, to connect. The vessels are all around us.

Then Elisha gave her another instruction: “Shut the door behind you and your sons.” Why? To remove distraction. To create sacred space for the miracle. In our modern lives, filled with noise and chaos, we need this reminder. Shut the door. Focus. Like during the pandemic, when the world quieted and many heard God more clearly—this woman needed that stillness. Focus precedes fulfillment. Without it, the pouring could never have started. Distraction is the enemy of destiny.

As I expound on this faithful story, I am reminded of a friend of mine, a young disciple-in-

training. Every time she started moving in purpose, distraction would come—through relationships, doubt, or fear. But once she learned to shut the door and focus, her life began to shift. The enemy comes to steal, kill, and destroy. One of the first things he tries to steal is our focus. But God calls us back to stillness, to obedience, to the sacred task at hand.

Then came the pouring: “Then pour into all those vessels, and set aside the full ones.” This is the call to fill. As long as the widow poured, the oil flowed. As long as there were empty jars, there was supply. But once there were no more vessels, the oil ceased. The Amplified Bible says, “Then the oil stopped multiplying.” This is powerful. It shows that God’s anointing flows where there is need and space. The blessings keep coming as long as we are willing to pour out.

We are also called to fill. Fill others with wisdom, encouragement, and the Word of God.

Teachers fill. Authors fill. Ministers fill. You don't need a stage—just a vessel willing to be used. What do you have in your hand, in your house? Your gifts are not random. Your story is not without purpose. Pour out.

Once the task was complete, Elisha gave the final instruction: “Go, sell the oil and pay your debt; and you and your sons live on the rest.” This is the blessing phase—Feast. God brought her from the famine to the feast... From survival to overflow... From desperation to peace. When we fish, focus, and fill, we position ourselves to feast—not only financially, but spiritually, emotionally, and mentally.

“One thing have I desired of the Lord, that I may dwell in His house forever,” says the Psalmist. That's the kind of feasting our souls long for—abundance in His presence. But it begins with obedience, and it requires endurance.

I encourage you today: Fish for the empty vessels. Focus on the calling. Fill every space God places before you while trusting that the feast will come. If one jar of oil could fill so many, imagine what God could do with a multitude of willing hearts. The power of one in the hands of God is never small. It is explosive. It is miraculous.

In the math of heaven, one becomes many, and your little becomes more than enough. Keep fishing. Keep focusing. Keep filling, and without a doubt, you will feast.

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About the Author

Crystalene Reyes is a devoted Christian, wife, and mother of five—three biological and two bonus children whom God blessed her with through the sanctity of marriage. Her love for the Lord began at a young age when her grandmother took her to church, igniting a faith that, though tested, has remained steadfast. She holds a Diploma in Theology, a Bachelor of Education, and a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration. As a teacher and entrepreneur, Crystalene is the co-owner and founder of Divinely Guided Learning (CS Reyes Learning) in Trinidad and the founder of Divinely Guided Books, an online Christian platform offering both paid and free content to help others grow in their faith. Her passion for God's Word drives her to share its truth with those willing to listen. She is the visionary behind the Through God's Voice series,

which intertwines Biblical scripture with life lessons and self-development principles. Her ultimate mission is to positively impact lives and be the salt of the earth, just as God intended!