

PRAYER

- Ask the Holy Spirit to lead you to situations where you can become an instrument of blessing to others.

- Pray for a deeper understanding of God's will for your life, so that you may be able to ask according to His will.

- Pray for at least one person you know who is in need and ask God to supernaturally provide for his or her needs.



UNLIMITED
YOU CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER

The Barley and the Grain
 Week 4

NOTES

CONNECT

- What prayer are you hoping to be answered? Why did you ask for it?
- Have you ever received a blessing without asking for anything? How did you feel? What did you do with the blessing?
- What would you do if you learned that you are to inherit a large amount of money and assets from an unknown relative? Why?

WORD

⁴²A man came from Baal Shalishah, bringing the man of God twenty loaves of barley bread baked from the first ripe grain, along with some heads of new grain. “Give it to the people to eat,” Elisha said. ⁴³“How can I set this before a hundred men?” his servant asked. But Elisha answered, “Give it to the people to eat. For this is what the Lord says: ‘They will eat and have some left over.’”

2 Kings 4:42,43

WHAT

What does the Bible say?

When hard times hit, people often worry about the little supply available instead of thinking about the people who need this little supply. Certain of God’s provision for His people, Elisha reveals to us three truths about such situations.

- **God limitlessly provides for His people.**

“Proclaim further: This is what the Lord Almighty says: ‘My towns will again overflow with prosperity, and the Lord will again comfort Zion and choose Jerusalem.’”

Zechariah 1:17

Elisha’s story shows us that our trust in God’s provision is limited by our faith in Him and His desire to provide for us. That faith depends on how well we know our God and how sure we are that we are His people. How has your relationship with Christ changed the way you see God’s provision for you? How has your faith been built up by God’s limitless provision?

- **God blesses us so we can bless others.**

⁴². . . “Give it to the people to eat,” Elisha said. ⁴³“How can I set this before a hundred men?” his servant asked. But Elisha answered, “Give it to the people to eat. For this is what the Lord says: ‘They will eat and have some left over.’”

2 Kings 4:42,43

In dire straits, it is easy to think that blessings come for our own benefit. However, Elisha shows us that if we know God’s will, it is easy to realize that the reason we are blessed is so we can be a channel for that blessing to reach others. What will make it easy for us to bless other people?

- **God’s blessings overflow when we are obedient.**

Then he set it before them, and they ate and had some left over, according to the word of the Lord.

2 Kings 4:44

It is not enough to know God’s will and proclaim our faith in Him to provide. We need to put what we believe into action by obeying His Word. The overflow of God’s blessing to His people would not have happened if the servant did not obey Elisha’s command to set the food before the people. How did you feel when your obedience caused others to be blessed by God?

SO WHAT

What is the relevance of the Word to my life?

- What does Scripture say about God rescuing and delivering us from our troubles (Psalm 144:13)?
- What does God promise when we ask Him according to His will (1 John 5:13-15)?
- How has your faith increased when you shared your blessing with others?

NOW WHAT

How do I apply the Word to my life?

- What have you been blessed with lately that you can bless others with?
- Which of the three points of this lesson do you feel you need to ask the Holy Spirit to change or enhance in you?
- Looking at the past year, what experience has increased your faith in God’s desire to bless you?