

THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD
CHRIST THE LORD PARISH, LEKKI 1, LAGOS
DIGGING DEEP

THEME: ELISHA, HIS LIFE AND MINISTRY (PART 2)

TUESDAY, June 13, 2023

TOPIC: HOW TO BECOME SPIRIT FILLED

TEXT: 2 KINGS 4:1-17

INTRODUCTION

We started this series of life and ministry of Prophet Elisha last week. We saw how Elisha and other ministers of God were called. Often times God calls the unqualified. But when He calls, He qualifies Rom 8:30-31. God can therefore call an unlikely person for His service. Though Elisha was called by God for service, he had to go through the tutelage of Elijah patiently for six years. At the end, he earned a double portion of Elijah's anointing and the infilling of the Holy Spirit. He was the people's prophet for the fifty years of his ministry.

OUTLINE 1

A. We must admit our great needs

- A poor widow came to Elisha and complained that her creditor wanted to take her two sons because of her debts. When asked by Elisha what she had in her house she answered, that only a pot of oil. She admitted her emptiness and poverty to Elisha 2 Kings 4:2 That was the first step into her blessing.
- Every Believer is in one debt or another and can only discharge that debt when filled with the Holy Spirit.
 - We owe obedience to God Luke 17:10.
 - We owe love to our brethren 1 John 3:16.
 - Then to the lost souls Rom 1:14.

B. We must provide vessels that are clean and empty

- Our desire to be filled depends on our measure of emptiness 1 Kings 4:3
- Elisha requested for a double portion of the anointing of Elijah on the eve of his departure
- The Holy Spirit can only fill empty, clean vessels 2 Cor 7:1. Just like electricity, anointing flows best when the conductor is pure 1 John 1:7

C. We must employ the shut door

- * The widow was instructed to shut the door and to outside world and got alone with the Lord 2 King 4:4
- * This is the secret of the spirit-filled, spirit anointed and spirit -empowered life.
- * The endowment of power always comes as a result of the shut-door, look up to God. Heb 3:21 Act 2:1-4, Act 4:31, 9:11 and 17
- * The infilling of the Holy Spirit comes in answer to prayer and in place of prayer.

D. Our obedience must be total

- God can only fill us with the Holy Spirit to the measure of our obedience Isaiah 1:9
- The woman obeyed Elisha's instruction implicitly 2 King 4:5
- The mother of Jesus told His disciples "Whatever He tells you, do it" John 2:5

E. We must recognize what we have

- Our God is a God of providence.
- Even the widow who confessed she had nothing, still had a flask of oil.
- For a Christian, you may say you have nothing, just as the widow responded.
- The Holy Spirit is resident in every child of God John 14:16-17, 1 Cor 6:19, we must therefore recognize what we have, Rom 5:5, John 7:37-39, Rom 8:9-11, 1 Thes 4:8.

OUTLINE 2

A. We must take the step of faith

- Faith is a switch that can turn on the anointing.
- Elisha requested for a double portion of Elijah's anointing, though a hard request, Elisha stuck on believing he would receive the mantle of Elijah's anointing 1 John 5:14, Jerm 32:27
- Elisha's invitation to the home of the Shunammite brought blessing and love into the life of the childless woman 2 King 4:11-17.

CONCLUSION

God used Prophet Elisha to bring about miracles in his fifty years of ministry in Israel. This impacted on the lives of the people. God can use any of us to bring miracles, healing the sick and those held in captivity by the power of the Holy Spirit. But we must be saved by the blood of Jesus to receive fresh anointing for His service. You must surrender your life to Jesus.

God never changes. Heb 13:8. Ask God for infilling of the Holy Spirit as you bow your head in prayers. Pray in Jesus Name.