

# Little Is Much

## Scripture:

Luke 21:1-4 "And He looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury; <sup>2</sup>and He saw also a certain poor widow putting in two mites. <sup>3</sup>So He said, "Truly I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all; <sup>4</sup>for all these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she out of her poverty put in all the livelihood that she had."

## Introduction:

God is not concerned with the quantity of our gifts or our offerings. He's not intimidated by the lack of resources we may have. God has always proven Himself faithful against overwhelming odds and seemingly impossible situations. God wants His people to trust Him to accomplish great things through them. All we have to do is have faith and be obedient.

## I. God reduces the resources.

Judges 7:1-7 "Then Jerubbaal (that is, Gideon) and all the people who were with him rose early and encamped beside the well of Harod, so that the camp of the Midianites was on the north side of them by the hill of Moreh in the valley. <sup>2</sup>And the LORD said to Gideon, "The people who are with you are too many for Me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel claim glory for itself against Me, saying, 'My own hand has saved me.' <sup>3</sup>Now therefore, proclaim in the hearing of the people, saying, 'whoever is fearful and afraid, let him turn and depart at once from Mount Gilead.'" And twenty-two thousand of the people returned, and ten thousand remained. <sup>4</sup>But the LORD said to Gideon, "The people are still too many; bring them down to the water, and I will test them for you there. Then it will be, that of whom I say to you, 'This one shall go with you,' the same shall go with you; and of whomever I say to you, 'This one shall not go with you,' the same shall not go." <sup>5</sup>So he brought the people down to the water. And the LORD said to Gideon, "Everyone who laps from the water with his tongue, as a dog laps, you shall set apart by himself; likewise everyone who gets down on his knees to drink." <sup>6</sup>And the number of those who lapped, putting their hand to their mouth, was three hundred men; but all the rest of the people got down on their knees to drink water. <sup>7</sup>Then the LORD said to Gideon, "By the three hundred men who lapped I will save you, and deliver the Midianites into your hand. Let all the other people go, every man to his place."

A. The Midianites were without number. (Too large to count)

Judges 7:12 "Now the Midianites and Amalekites, all the people of the East, were lying in the valley as numerous as locusts; and their camels were without number, as the sand by the seashore in multitude."

B. God sent all who were afraid (those without faith) home. 22,000 left.

C. God sent all the careless ones home. Those who fell on their knees to drink. Another 9,700 gone.

D. Only 300 were left with Gideon but they won the battle.

## II. Only a boy named David. (I Samuel 17)

A. Goliath was a giant of a man.

B. David wanted to know, "Who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?" (vs.26)

C. "Is there not a cause?" (vs.29)

D. David would not use the king's armor nor his sword.

E. Five smooth stones should do the trick.

**Only a Boy Named David**

Only a Boy Named David

(Arthur Arnott)

Only a boy named David  
Only a little sling  
Only a boy named David  
But he could pray and sing  
Only a boy named David  
Only a rippling brook  
Only a boy named David  
But five little stones he took.

And one little stone went in the sling  
And the sling went round and round  
And one little stone went in the sling  
And the sling went round and round  
And round and round  
And round and round  
And round and round and round  
And one little stone went up in the air  
And the giant came tumbling down.

### III. Just a pot of oil.

II Kings 4:1-7 "A certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets cried out to Elisha, saying, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that your servant feared the LORD. And the creditor is coming to take my two sons to be his slaves." <sup>2</sup>So Elisha said to her, "What shall I do for you? Tell me, what do you have in the house?" And she said, "Your maidservant has nothing in the house but a jar of oil." <sup>3</sup>Then he said, "Go, borrow vessels from everywhere, from all your neighbors—empty vessels; do not gather just a few." <sup>4</sup>And when you have come in, you shall shut the door behind you and your sons; then pour it into all those vessels, and set aside the full ones." <sup>5</sup>So she went from him and shut the door behind her and her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured it out. <sup>6</sup>Now it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said to her son, "Bring me another vessel." And he said to her, "There is not another vessel." So the oil ceased. Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debt; and you and your sons live on the rest."

- A. Her situation was about as hopeless as it could get.
- B. She had to take a step of faith. (Go borrow vessels)

Hebrews 11:6 "But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

- C. She had to obey. (Shut the door and pour the oil)

Joshua 1:8-9 "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. <sup>9</sup>Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

### IV. What is in your hand?

Exodus 4:1-2 "Then Moses answered and said, "But suppose they will not believe me or listen to my voice; suppose they say, 'The LORD has not appeared to you.'"<sup>2</sup>So the LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?" He said, "A rod."

- A. With that rod Moses was able to bring deliverance to the children of Israel.
- B. The sling and the stone may not seem like much but God can use it.
- C. Thousands can be fed with two fish and five loaves of bread. (Matthew 15:33-34)

D. The widow's mite is a large offering in the sight of God.

Mark 12:41-44 "Now Jesus sat opposite the treasury and saw how the people put money into the treasury. And many who were rich put in much. <sup>42</sup>Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a quadrans. <sup>43</sup>So He called His disciples to Himself and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; <sup>44</sup>for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood."

E. What do you have to put into the kingdom of God?

"Little Is Much When God Is In It"

In the harvest field now ripened there's a work for all to do:  
Hark! The voice of God is calling: to the harvest calling you.

Does the place you're called to labor seem so small and little known?  
It is great if God is in it, and He'll not forget His own.

Are you laid aside from service, body worn from toil and care?  
You can still be in the battle in the sacred place of prayer.

When the conflict here is ended and our race on Earth is run,  
He will say if we are faithful, "Welcome Home my child--well done!"

LITTLE IS MUCH WHEN GOD IS IN IT! LABOR NOT FOR WEALTH OR FAME:  
THERE'S A CROWN---AND YOU CAN WIN IT, IF YOU'LL GO IN JESUS' NAME.