

On Using A Bigger Bucket

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Faith is the bucket of power lowered by the rope of prayer into the well of God's abundance. What we bring up depends upon what we let down. We have every encouragement to use a BIG BUCKET!

-Virginia Whitman

One of my favorite "faith stories" is about a dear saint from the 1500's named Therese of Avila. She felt led by God to open an orphanage to care for the multitude of orphaned and abandoned children she had seen in the streets. However, she had a total of three shillings to her name. When doubters criticized her for even thinking she could undertake such a project without money, she gave them this faith-filled reply. "With three shillings, Therese can do nothing. But with God and three shillings, Therese can do anything!"

In the process of walking with God in the opening of Treasures of Africa Children's Home in Tanzania and Operation Lazarus in Ukraine, we have learned much about the absolute necessity of looking only to God for our supply. Of course God uses people, but He never wants us to look to people, but only to Him. This is a common mistake that I have observed among Christian workers who depend on people to supply their needs to do God's work. This places a person in grave spiritual danger according to Jeremiah 17:5 - ***Thus says the Lord,***

***"Cursed is the man who trusts in mankind
And makes flesh his strength,
And whose heart turns away from the Lord.***

We would never want to bring a curse upon ourselves or have our hearts turn away from the Lord. And yet this scripture tells us that is exactly the progression that takes place when we start making people our "source" that we place our trust and reliance in for our needs to be met. We must guard our hearts against that temptation. If you have a job where you receive a paycheck from a corporation - be careful you don't see that company as your source of supply. Make sure you understand that God is the supplier of all your needs.

The other part of this "faith walk" that Therese of Avila understood, is the importance of not looking at the impossibility of a situation. She knew and trusted in the God who loves to make the impossible thing possible!

We had to enlarge our "faith bucket" to receive the finances to purchase property for our orphanage in Tanzania. And God responded by filling that bucket with more than enough to buy the land we needed for Treasures of Africa Children's Home.

Now we are enlarging our "faith bucket" again to receive the finances to build the new "Children's Village" on that land. I want to encourage you to enlarge your "faith bucket" and lower it into the well of God's abundance. Then you will draw up the answer to your faith and have a testimony to share of His great faithfulness.

Whatever your particular need is in your life, remember the words of Jesus found in Mark 9:23 -

"If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."

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