

BEYOND

There's A Miracle In The House – Message 5

Announcements

- The 2019 Community Series, *Above The Noise: Find Peace When Life Gets Loud* kicks off January 12&13. Text **group** to **25827** and tell us your plans on hosting a group.
- Church of the King offices and buildings are closed Thanksgiving Day and the day after Thanksgiving.

Warm-up

Do you think tradition is a good or bad thing? Give examples of both.

Overview

Before we see an increase on the outside, we have to make room for it on the inside. When we make room for God's increase, we can move forward as individuals and as a church.

Word and Application

During our fifth and final week of the *Beyond* series, we start by taking a look back at the miracles God has done in and through Church of the King. As we have remained faithful to the Great Commission found in **Matthew 28:19-20**, God has always been faithful to multiply us. As we continue to make room for God, He will continue to give us increase.

Old Wineskin

Read Luke 5:37-38, Mark 2:22, Isaiah 29:13, and Jeremiah 12:2.

- How would you explain the message contained in these passages and illustrations?
- A **wineskin** was a leather container. When it got old, it would become hard and rigid, not able to expand. If you put new wine into it, when the wine expanded it would burst the wineskin.
- We can't increase on the outside if we don't expand our way of thinking beyond the traditions and limitations of the present.

Small group lessons are available at cotkleaders.com.

- What happens when we try to contain the new life of Christ in “old wineskin”? What do these truths mean to you personally?

Give God Permission to Increase You

- **Read Psalm 78:41, Numbers 14:22, and Matthew 9:29.** We can actually limit God’s power in our lives by our unbelief and lack of faith.
- What life limitations have you set because of limited thinking and belief?
- What do you think is at the root of unbelief?
- Practically speaking, how can we “give God permission to increase us”?

The Widow and the Jars of Oil

- Read the narrative of the widow and the jars of oil in **2 Kings 4:1-6**. This widow had admirable humility and determination. What impresses you most about this narrative?
- When faced with hard times, are you naturally inclined:
 - Ask for help or go it alone?
 - To fight or take flight?
 - Pray & fast or commiserate?
 - Endure the pain or work to find a way out?
- On a scale of 1-10, where does your faith (the ability to believe God for the impossible) rate?
- What negatively affects your faith? What helps you (personally) increase your faith?
- Discuss as a group how we can contend for our faith on a daily, weekly, and lifetime basis.

Life Challenge

- Similar to the widow in 2 Kings 4:1-6, ask yourself what’s “already in your house” that God wants to use to partner in this miracle? Keeping that in mind, how can you begin putting that in action this week?
- During this series, you’ve thought of the miracles, dreams and God-given visions you are believing God for. How has your outlook, prayers, or faith changed because of this series?

Prayer

Father, I ask you to reveal and remove any limitations I have placed on you through negative thinking, doubt or unbelief. Increase my faith to believe in you and the miracles you are able *and* willing to do in my life. Pray for the specific needs of your small group.