

“Thought Parade”

By Mrs. Sojourner

Have you ever heard a tune and then found yourself humming or whistling that tune later in the day? Sometimes, in my case, the tune may be running through my head the next day.

Thoughts can do the same thing. Some thoughts run through our heads over and over. Negative thoughts (not Godly) running rampant through a person’s mind will keep a person bound up in fear, or depression (or whatever their focus is).

¹Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. ²Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:1-2 NIV

See, the Word would not tell us to be transformed by the renewing of our minds IF it was an impossible feat. So, take hope in the Word, YOU CAN stop the negative



Notes:

[a]

thought parade that is marching through your head and fill it’s place with thoughts that honor God and bring you PEACE. So how do you do this? The Word talks about changing this thought parade.

⁸Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

⁹Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you. Philippians 4:8 NIV

The more you focus on the Word and other true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, or praiseworthy things, you will find that the thought parade marching through your mind brings peace.

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The Sojourner
Sojourner’s Fellowships
PO Box 955
Manchester, TN 37349

Phone: 931-409-1406
Toll Free: 800-391-6944
Skype: thesojourner3734
Email:
thesojourner@sojournershub.org



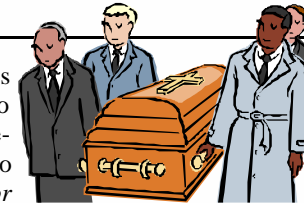
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...with The Sojourner

“Waiting To Die?” (Teaching Sketch)

1 Kings 17:8-16 (NIV)



The Lord spoke to me as surely as he spoke to Elijah to go to Zerephath (*refinement*) to approach the widow (*or desolate*), with this message, “Waiting To Die.” He told me, “Many of my people see only the circumstances around them and the circumstances seem desolate in their perception! They are not even looking my way but have fallen into the deception of Satan as to what they are not and what they cannot possibly do, or that they cannot thrive. This believing, on their part, of Satan’s lie has frozen their life. They have little or no joy and are seeking whatever happiness that may be found for their life. They have ignored or misapplied my Word and as a result feel troubled, depressed, and in despair!”

Look At The Widow

Look at the widow in our scripture! God has given her an instruction to give food to Elijah. How strange this must have seemed to this widow.

Notes:

[a]

She must have thought how can I possibly give anyone something to eat. There is only enough for myself and my son for one meal. Look at her response to Elijah, “As surely as the LORD your God lives,” she replied, “I don’t have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die.”

Nothing

Believing that you have nothing or are nothing will kill you! John 10:10 Jesus says, “**The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.**” If you or someone you know feels they are nothing or they have nothing, remind yourself anyone in God’s Kingdom is not desolate or destitute. You are not without value! Jesus came that you may have a full and

9-26

Scripture: 1 Kings 17:8-40 (NIV)

(NIV is employed here to allow English speakers around the world equal understanding of the words used)

8 Then the word of the LORD came to him^[a]: 9 "Go at once to Zarephath^[b] of Sidon^[c] and stay there. I have commanded a widow^[d] in that place to supply you with food." 10 So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, "Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?" 11 As she was going to get it, he called, "And bring me, please, a piece of bread."

12 "As surely as the LORD your God lives," she replied, "I don't have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and

Notes:

[a]
Elijah

[b]
Hebrew;
refinement

[c]
Hebrew;
in the sense of
catching
fish,
fishery

[d]
Hebrew;
a widow;
or also a
desolate
place

a little oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die."

13 Elijah said to her, "Don't be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small cake of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son. 14 For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the LORD gives rain on the land.'" (Continued. next page)

Just so you'll know:

Our service is informal. We look to the Holy Spirit of God to guide us corporately and individually.

Our service usually follows this general pattern:

- **Informal sharing** of what we have seen the Lord do in, through, and around us since we last met.
 - Testimonies are often a part of the conversation.
- **Opening Prayer**
- **Praise & Worship** (*Offerings are placed in the basket at this time*)
- **Words of Prophecy or Knowledge** if they have been given during "Praise & Worship" (other times as the Spirit moves).
- **The Pastoral Message**
- **Prayer Requests**
 - Ministry to those present & intercession.
- **The Blessing**

"Waiting To Die?" (Teaching Sketch)

1 Kings 17:8-16 (NIV)



(Scripture cont.) 15 She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. 16 For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the LORD spoken by Elijah.

abundant life, not a miserable, sick, poverty-filled, sorry-for-yourself existence!

The widow had been commanded to give what she felt she did not have but God knew what she had better than she did. Her eyes were on her perceived circumstances.

Kingdom Faith

Kingdom faith requires we do something by faith to access the things of The Kingdom.

When a person accepts Christ as their Lord and Savior they do it by faith. I did it by faith! All must do it by faith! Faith is putting God's Word and promises into action. Without action there is no faith!

Now if a person is doing what I call "active waiting," they are waiting for a manifestation of God's promise to them but they are waiting actively because they are not doing nothing, but are doing what is expected of all believers in general while they are waiting

for a specific instruction or thing.

Kingdom Faith Is Something

Kingdom faith has substance! Hebrews 11:1 tells us, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

We must understand faith in God and his Kingdom has substance. You are alive! Live in God's Blessing!

Sojourners...
yield good
fruit and
harvest unto
the Lord
their God.

