

“Are You The Hand Of God?”



By Mrs. Sojourner

The Word describes our Heavenly Father as Jehovah Jireh which means “God will Provide.”



out that she had no son, so he then prophesied that by that time the next year she would have a son.^[d]

Recently someone gave us something we needed—a big something that we badly needed. We did not ask him for this item. We had made our request only to God. He spoke to this person who was obedient and became God’s “Hand” in this case.

Notes:

[a] vs. 8

[b] vs. 9

[c] vs. 13

[d] vs. 12-14

[e] vs. 17

This miracle in our lives reminds me of The Shunammite woman in 2 Kings 4:8-36. She fed and provided lodging for Elisha. The Prophet did not ask her for the food or for the room—she freely volunteered both.

Let us look at the Shunammite woman. The Word tells us that she was well-to-do,^[a] perceptive,^[b] and secure with her family and surroundings.^[c] She clearly did not give hospitality to Elisha because she wanted something from him.

Now Elisha, reflecting God’s desire to bless and honor those who honor him and his servants, searched out something that would bless her. He did not give up until he found

The woman was the “Hand of God” to Elisha with her gift of food and lodging and Elisha was the “Hand of God” to her by prophesying and believing for a son for her. You see, we all have gifts and circumstances that God can use to bless others, if we listen to his promptings and allow him to work through us. When Believers do this it can be a “win-win” situation for both the one planting the seed and the one receiving the harvest. The person you plant the seed with may not be the person through which you receive the harvest.

So I ask you, are you willing to be a “Hand” God is able to use to show his the greatness of his glory and remind people he is Jehovah Jireh?

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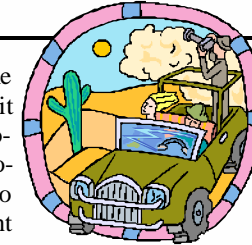
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“Search Every Corner!” (Teaching Sketch)

Jeremiah 23:1-4 (NIV)



When I was following the leading of the Holy Spirit by developing a Sojourner’s Fellowships brochure, I was preparing to write a doctrine statement when suddenly the Holy Spirit said, “No, don’t produce a doctrine. The doctrines of men divide The Body. I will tell you what to say about what those in Sojourner’s Fellowships are to do.”

Notes:
[a] Matt. 7:7

[b] Mark 16:15

and unbeliever alike are to see my glory flow through them in power!”

Not Just Another Place

It was then I realized Sojourner’s Fellowships were not to be just another place to hear a message and go on about your life.

Marching Orders

It was then I realized doctrine is not necessarily a marching order! Then I was taken to Jeremiah 23 to the section of “woe to the shepherds.” I must tell you I was a little taken back when I was first reading where I had been sent. I was wondering what I had done wrong to receive such a strong rebuke!

Scattered People

Sojourner believers are active seekers of the lost and floundering. Jesus told us if we seek we will find.^[a] Yes, it is true, Christ came seeking us and he will continue to seek through we who are willing to follow his “Great Commission!”^[b]

There are Believers who are scattered here and there around the earth who are disconnected from the body of Believers as a whole. They may well be floundering, isolated, languishing after having been ill-taught, ill-received, and ill-treated by poor shepherds. These people of God

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Then the Holy Spirit said, “Tell the people they are to do what these shepherds had failed to do! The Sojourners with you are to be doers and not just hearers! My people are to be people of action, my action through them. Believer

Please note: This is a teaching sketch only and not the complete teaching.

Scripture: Jeremiah 23:1-4 (NIV)

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

¹"Woe to the shepherds who are destroying and scattering the sheep of my pasture!" declares the LORD. ²Therefore this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says to the shepherds who tend my people: "Because you have scattered my flock and driven them away and have not bestowed care on them, I will bestow punishment on you for the evil you have done," declares the LORD. ³"I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them and will bring them back to their pasture, where they will be fruitful and increase in number. ⁴I will

Notes:
[a]
Or charge
until
Christ
game

place shepherds over them who will tend them, and they will no longer be afraid or terrified, nor will any be missing," declares the LORD.

¹¹It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, ¹²to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

(Eph. 4:11-12 NIV)

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**

"Search Every Corner!" (Teaching Sketch)

Jeremiah 23:1-4 (NIV)



SOJOURNERS...

Sojourner's... Cover every corner of the pasture given them by God.

(Jer. 23:2-3)



are much like the ones of which Jeremiah spoke. Their shepherds have scattered them and driven them away and have not cared for them as the Lord intended. We must change, renew, and refresh them and their minds.^[c]

There minds, for the most part, have never undergone the renewal process because they, either by choice or neglect of their shepherds, were never taught who they are in Christ. They are unaware of the care and feeding on the WORD that needed to take place. They, as a result, are not maturing beyond young vulnerable infancy to what Christ desires for them. The enemy may well have entered into their situation deceiving them into thinking being disconnected is a proper state.

Sadly, these Believers are only going languish, possibly in deception. They may not reach out to unbelievers with the Gospel. If they do evangelize they will likely not understand how to affect the renewal process within a con-

gregation of Believers or will duplicate themselves as yet another generation of isolates.

Unbelievers

There are unbelievers in every corner of the earth who need to be sought out to be told of their salvation, pasture, and place in Christ and his Kingdom.

By flowing in the seeking, relating, and renewing process personally and in aiding others we prove, by demonstration, what is good, acceptable, and perfect in the will of God. Yes, I said prove and demonstrate! We prove who and what we are to the unbeliever by the doing (*demonstrating*) the work of Christ on the cross and in us by his Holy Spirit. This is how God demonstrates, or proves, his existence, power, and faithfulness to the unbeliever!

Commit yourself to function in God's plan and cover every corner of the pasture you've been given—neighborhood, workplace, or the world!

Notes:

[c]
Romans
12:2