

## Outline

- I. Loving security keeps you from receiving God's best.
  - A. Second Kings 7:3-4 says,

*And there were four leprous men at the entering in of the gate: and they said one to another, Why sit we here until we die? [4] If we say, We will enter into the city, then the famine is in the city, and we shall die there: and if we sit still here, we die also. Now therefore come, and let us fall unto the host of the Syrians: if they save us alive, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall but die.*
  - B. These four lepers basically asked themselves, "How long are we going to sit here? Until we die?"
  - C. Maybe you're not content where you are, but you aren't doing anything about it because you're afraid that it might not work out.
  - D. You need to understand that you'll never see a change in your situation if you're not willing to take a risk.
  - E. You could play it safe, but God's given you a bigger vision.
  - F. You should start believing for more than you've ever believed for in your life!
  - G. Even if you fail, God will look at you and say, "At least you tried."
- II. Are you a person who has never failed because you've never done anything?
  - A. This is not to condemn you; this question is meant to try to stir you up.
  - B. You're going to have to get up and do something!
  - C. Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again but expecting different results.
  - D. Are you on the edge of your promised land and looking in, but afraid to enter because it might mean having to fight a giant?
  - E. Get up and go take your land!

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- III. You should want to give everything you've got for God's kingdom—to have your life ALL used up.
- A. You don't want to stand before the Lord and hear Him say, "I asked you to do this and that, but you didn't do it because you were afraid that it wouldn't work out."
  - B. You should rather want to try and trust God and risk failing and falling flat on your face than do nothing at all and be a success at it.
  - C. Before you can receive God's best, you must understand that the eyes of the Lord are looking at your heart right now.
  - D. Are you fully committed to Him, or are you just embracing life the way everybody else does it?
  - E. Are various fears and small thinking limiting what He can do in your life?
  - F. Have you been shooting for God's best?
- IV. The first step toward receiving God's best for you is to quit accepting less than His best.
- A. You need to raise the standard, but not through guilt and condemnation, saying, "O God, I'm a terrible person because I've not stepped out in faith."
  - B. No, the Lord loves you just like you are, but He loves you so much that He doesn't want to leave you where you are.
  - C. He wants to raise you up to a higher level.
  - D. God wants you to believe for His best, but it's not going to come to pass for you accidentally.
  - E. You're going to have to set God's best as your goal and pursue it.
- V. Just like those lepers, you're going to have to stir yourself up.
- A. How long are you just going to keep wishing and hoping instead of taking a step of faith?
  - B. You need to stir yourself up, or you'll just settle back down to the bottom.

## Living in God's Best

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- C. You probably weren't expecting this kind of a message; maybe you don't even like it.
  - D. But this lesson is meant to provoke you to do the right thing and to take the step of faith that God is showing you.
- VI. Before you can go any further in learning about how to receive God's best, you must change your expectation.
- A. You have to change your aim and begin looking for something more.
  - B. Don't get condemned, and don't do something stupid, but don't stay where you are either.
  - C. Say, "God, I want Your best. I want to accomplish everything You have for me!"
  - D. You serve a big God!
  - E. It doesn't matter how far you've gone, how much you've believed, or how much you've received—God has more!
- VII. If your life isn't supernatural, then it's superficial.
- A. If you can point to yourself and take pride in everything you've done, then you haven't come into God.
  - B. He will bring you beyond yourself.
  - C. He'll ask you to do something that's bigger than you so that you'll have to depend on Him.
  - D. Then the only answer you can give will be, "It's not me. It's the Lord. He did it. Only the blessing of God could make these things work out this way."
- VIII. Many of us as Christians haven't stretched ourselves very far.
- A. We ought to be living for something worth dying for.
  - B. We've got more to do than we can accomplish in a lifetime.
  - C. Every day should be exciting because we're busy stretching forward in faith to fulfill what God has led us to do.

IX. Have you been wondering why your life isn't exciting?

- A. It's because God can't give you a sense of satisfaction, joy, and peace over what you're doing because He made you for more than that.
- B. He wants to raise your vision and lift up your head.
- C. Are you ready to believe for something bigger?

#### ANDREW'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY

The Lord spoke to me on January 31, 2002, and told me that I was limiting Him by my small thinking. I had started broadcasting on television two years before that and from January 2000 to January 2002, our ministry had doubled. I thought that was pretty good, but then the Lord spoke to me about how I was limiting Him. You can read more about this in my book *Don't Limit God*, but the point is that I decided I wasn't going to keep limiting Him that way. I started to think differently—to think bigger. That was just fourteen years ago, and our ministry has grown at least twenty times larger since then. Everything has been totally transformed. I've been living on the edge. Every time it looks like we have our feet under us and we're just about to make it, God increases my vision, and I lean in a little further. Amen!

## Discipleship Questions

1. True or false: Loving security keeps you from receiving God's best.

2. What did the four lepers basically ask themselves (2 Kin. 7:3-4)?

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3. You will never see a change in your situation if you're not willing to do what?

- A. Take a stand
- B. Take a hint
- C. Take a break
- D. Take a risk
- E. Take a bow

4. *Discussion question:* What will you change in order to start living more by faith?

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5. True or false: You need to sit back and receive your land.

6. *Discussion question:* How much are you willing to trust God even though there is the risk of failure?

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7. Before you can receive God's best, you must understand what?

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8. What is God looking to see?

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9. *Discussion question:* What are you going to do to deal with fear and small thinking?

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10. What is the first step toward receiving God's best for you?

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11. True or false: You need to raise the standard through guilt and condemnation.

12. True or false: God loves you so much that He wants to leave you where you are.

13. God's best is not going to come to pass for you \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. Accidentally
- B. Purposefully
- C. Supernaturally
- D. All of the above
- E. None of the above

14. You have to set God's best as your goal and do what?

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## Living in God's Best

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15. True or false: You have to stir yourself up.

16. What is this lesson meant to do?

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17. Before you can go any further in learning about how to receive God's best, what must you change?

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18. What do you need to say?

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19. It doesn't matter how far you've gone, how much you've believed, or how much you've received—God has \_\_\_\_\_!

20. If your life isn't \_\_\_\_\_, then it's \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. Superabundant / superstitious
- B. Supernatural / superficial
- C. Superfluous / superlative
- D. Superior / supernal
- E. Superhuman / superb

21. True or false: If you can point to yourself and take pride in everything you've done, then you haven't come into God.

22. *Discussion question:* What has God asked you to do that's bigger than you?

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23. You ought to be \_\_\_\_\_ for something worth \_\_\_\_\_ for.

24. You've got more to do than what you can accomplish in a \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. Church service
- B. Lifetime
- C. Trip overseas
- D. All of the above
- E. None of the above

25. Every day should be \_\_\_\_\_ because you're \_\_\_\_\_ stretching \_\_\_\_\_ in faith to fulfill what God has led you to do.

26. *Discussion question:* What would believing for something bigger look like for you?

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## Scriptures

2 KINGS 7:3-11

And there were four leprous men at the entering in of the gate: and they said one to another, Why sit we here until we die? [4] If we say, We will enter into the city, then the famine is in the city, and we shall die there: and if we sit still here, we die also. Now therefore come, and let us fall unto the host of the Syrians: if they save us alive, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall but die. [5] And they rose up in the twilight, to go unto the camp of the Syrians: and when they were come to the uttermost part of the camp of Syria, behold, there was no man there. [6] For the Lord had made the host of the Syrians to hear a noise of chariots, and a noise of horses, even the noise of a great host: and they said one to another, Lo, the king of Israel hath hired against us the kings of the Hittites, and the kings of the Egyptians, to come upon us. [7] Wherefore they arose and fled in the twilight, and left their tents, and their horses, and their asses, even the camp as it was, and fled for their life. [8] And when these lepers came to the uttermost part of the camp, they went into one tent, and did eat and drink, and carried thence silver, and gold, and raiment, and went and hid it; and came again, and entered into another tent, and carried thence also, and went and hid it. [9] Then they said one to another, We do not well: this day is a day of good tidings, and we hold our peace: if we tarry till the morning light, some mischief will come upon us: now therefore come, that we may go and tell the king's household. [10] So they came and called unto the porter of the city: and they told them, saying, We came to the camp of the Syrians, and, behold, there was no man there, neither voice of man, but horses tied, and asses tied, and the tents as they were. [11] And he called the porters; and they told it to the king's house within.

2 KINGS 6:24-29

And it came to pass after this, that Benhadad king of Syria gathered all his host, and went up, and besieged Samaria. [25] And there was a great famine in Samaria: and, behold, they besieged it, until an ass's head was sold for fourscore pieces of silver, and the fourth part of a cab of dove's dung for five pieces of silver. [26] And as the king of Israel was passing by upon the wall, there cried a woman unto him, saying, Help, my lord, O king. [27] And he said, If the Lord do not help thee, whence shall I help thee? out of the barnfloor, or out of the winepress? [28] And the king said unto her, What aileth thee? And she answered, This woman said unto me, Give thy son, that we may eat him to day, and we will eat my son to morrow. [29] So we boiled my son, and did eat him: and I said unto her on the next day, Give thy son, that we may eat him: and she hath hid her son.