

TRUTH & RIGHT

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WHAT WILL WE DO?

"Now a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets cried out to Elisha, 'Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that your servant feared the LORD; and the creditor has come to take my two children to be his slaves.' Elisha said to her, 'What shall I do for you? Tell me, what do you have in the house?' And she said, 'Your maidservant has nothing in the house except a jar of oil.' Then he said, 'Go, borrow vessels at large for yourself from all your neighbors, even empty vessels; do not get a few. And you shall go in and shut the door behind you and your sons, and pour out into all these vessels, and you shall set aside what is full.' So she went from him and shut the door behind her and her sons; they were bringing the vessels to her and she poured. When the vessels were full, she said to her son, 'Bring me another vessel.' And he said to her, 'There is not one vessel more.'

And the oil stopped. Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, 'Go, sell the oil and pay your debt, and you and your sons can live on the rest,'" 2 Kings 4:1-7. I love this account of God's answer to His faithful servants when the uncertainty of life brings the weight of hardship and the cry is uttered, "What are we going to do??" I love the reassurance provided by this record of God providing for the needs of those suffering hardship. We need to draw near and surround our minds with the evidence of that reassurance we need to continue to trust in God. I love that the bible is so full of instances like this one, where we can marvel, sense the relief, and experience the joy of those who saw God come to their rescue and help. I love the doubt expressed by Elisha's attendant that a sack full of twenty loaves of barley

and grain could possibly even make a dent in alleviating the hunger of 100 men, and his eventual astonishment to not only see it being enough, but even having some left over! "Now a man came from Baalshalishah, and brought the man of God bread of the first fruits, twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. And he said, 'Give them to the people that they may eat.' His attendant said, 'What, will I set this before a hundred men?' But he said, 'Give them to the people that they may eat, for thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and have some left over.'" So he set it before them, and they ate and had some left over, according to the word of the LORD," 2 Kings 4:42-44. I love the similar replica of this miracle by the hands of Jesus with a much larger crowd and smaller amount of food. "After these things Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee (or Tiberias). A large crowd followed Him, because they saw the signs which He was performing on those who were sick. Then Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat down with His disciples. Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was near. Therefore Jesus, lifting up His eyes and seeing that a large crowd was

coming to Him, said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread, so that these may eat?' This He was saying to test him, for He Himself knew what He was intending to do. Philip answered Him, 'Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, for everyone to receive a little.' One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, 'There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are these for so many people?' Jesus said, 'Have the people sit down.' Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. Jesus then took the loaves, and having given thanks, He distributed to those who were seated; likewise also of the fish as much as they wanted. When they were filled, He said to His disciples, 'Gather up the leftover fragments so that nothing will be lost.' So they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. Therefore when the people saw the sign which He had performed, they said, 'This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world,'" John 6:1-14. I love how Jesus repeats the miracle with slightly different numbers of both the

crowd and the amount of food He had to work with, feeding a crowd of four thousand with seven loaves and a few small fish and even having seven large baskets left over after satisfying the crowd. I love how Jesus reminds the disciples of both occasions when they begin to worry about not having any bread for a trip, reassuring them it was not a one-time deal, but evidence of assurance that we need not worry when it seems we have been left alone to handle our difficult pressing circumstances. "And they had forgotten to take bread, and did not have more than one loaf in the boat with them. And He was giving orders to them, saying, 'Watch out! Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod.' They began to discuss with one another the fact that they had no bread. And Jesus, aware of this, said to them, 'Why do you discuss the fact that you have no bread? Do you not yet see or understand? Do you have a hardened heart? Having eyes, do you not see? And having ears, do you not hear? And do you not remember, when I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces you picked up?' They said to Him, 'Twelve.' 'When I broke

the seven for the four thousand, how many large baskets full of broken pieces did you pick up?' And they said to Him, 'Seven.' And He was saying to them, 'Do you not yet understand?'" Mark 8:14-21. Let us not fail to understand, but take courage and fix our hope on the God who cares for us and assures us He is willing and able to care for our needs when we can't possibly see how.
— Daniel Ruegg



"Whenever a woman is in labor she has pain, because her hour has come; but when she gives birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy that a child has been born into the world. Therefore you too have grief now; but I will see you again, and your heart will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you."
John 16:21-22

FIFTH SUNDAY PHOTOS

Every fifth Sunday of the month, we try to highlight some of great things happening around our congregation that were captured through photography. If you happen to get a good picture of one of those great things, please feel free to post it on our Facebook page, tag us on Instagram (@wellsburgchurch), tweet us at @wellsburgchurch, or e-mail us at minister@wellsburgchurchofchrist.com with a little description of what is happening in the picture.



The Ruegg family had their in-home bible study in place of the cancelled assembly Wednesday night. We miss being with you all!



Dwight Minor puts his song-leading talents to great use in leading families in worship at home online who have been quarantined due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Thank you, Dwight, for lifting us up in song!



Several of the ladies have been getting together to create welcoming and creative collages in the back of the building. We are so thankful for your work in making the building feel so warm and inviting as we enter inside!



Shannon, Nathan, Amber and Caleb joined together for a home bible study Wednesday evening. It is so wonderful and encouraging seeing brethren faithful to studying God's Word through this pandemic!