



# What's in your hand?

**Prov. 31:31**

**Give ye to her of the fruit of her hands, And her works do praise her in the gates! (YLT)**

**"God will only do what I cannot do"**

**"We are in danger of forgetting that we cannot do what God does, and that God will not do what we can do."**

**(Oswald Chambers)**

*It wasn't too long ago* that I had this principal practically shouted at me – through the Holy Spirit, of course!

- On Saturday I heard a message on [Luke 9:10-17](#)
- On Sunday from [2 Kings 4:1-7](#), and then
- On Tuesday it was a passage from [2 Peter 1:2-8](#).

Let me give a little advice here ... if this happens to you, don't think that it is a coincidence! Now, that may seem a little obvious, but I only share this for some of you who tend to be a little slow, like me! Ask God to show you what He is trying to say, just like Samuel did ([1 Samuel 3:8-10](#)).

Anyway, the point is: we are created to do good things, to team with God and join Him in the work that He is doing – to literally be His hand extended to the situations that we encounter ([Ephesians 2:10](#)). The great thing that we are to discover through our pro31 woman is that this is not always so 'super spiritual'. In fact, I would guess that it is mostly very practical. Yes, we need to pray but God is looking for people who put their faith to action. He is not into couch potato faith! Let's have a look...

**Vs. 31 "Give to her of the fruit of her hands..."**

**This speaks of:**

- **Legacy**
  - We must view life from the standpoint of legacy. We are here to grow fruit ... to invest in others ... to make disciples. ([Matthew 28:19](#)) It is God who creates and saves. It is us that He relies on to get the work done.
- **Reward**
  - We really do reap what we sow. ([Galatians 6:7](#))

**Vs. 27 "Watching the way of her household..."**

*"I have found that one of the most effective parenting tools that I can have is sight. Not simply vision, but understanding and discernment. Quite often, the answers to a situation are in my children's eyes. In them I find their soul as they relay truth, emotions, desire and life. I have prayed countless times, as I observe, for God to show me what to say, do or not."*

- *Be aware of others*
- *Listen to their expressions*
- *Look beyond what you see. See the need.*

Read [Proverbs 31:13-24](#). List some of what she does in response to her 'watching'.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**What is in our hand?**

We might see what is in our hand by looking at some examples of others:

- The disciples had 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish (Luke 9:10-17)
- The widow had one jar of oil (2 Kings 4:1-7)
- Noah could build
- David was good with a sling shot
- Esther was physically beautiful
- A forgiven women had oil (Luke 7:36-38)
- Joseph had a tomb (Matthew 27:57)
- Peter and John had the power of Jesus (Acts 3:6)
- I have Christ who strengthens me
- I have the Word of God so that I may be 'complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
- I have been given what I need to fulfill my purpose (2 Peter 1:3)

**Look @ Jesus**

- He went about doing good (Acts 10:38)
- He said that we could do greater things than He did.. if we believed! ([John 14:12](#))

**So, what is in your hand?**

- Do you see a need?
- Ask God to show you what is in your hand.
- Offer that in faith, and let God do the rest.
- All things are possible for those who believe.

**"DOING GOOD certainly isn't our complete mission as a follower of Jesus, but if it was the sum total of my life, I don't think I'd be too far off the mark.**

**We are here for the cause of Christ – for others."**

## SCRIPTURES FOR STUDY:

### **Luke 9:10-17 Feeding the Five Thousand**

10 And the apostles, when they had returned, told Him all that they had done. Then He took them and went aside privately into a deserted place belonging to the city called Bethsaida. 11 But when the multitudes knew it, they followed Him; and He received them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who had need of healing. 12 When the day began to wear away, the twelve came and said to Him, "Send the multitude away, that they may go into the surrounding towns and country, and lodge and get provisions; for we are in a deserted place here."

13 But He said to them, "You give them something to eat."

And they said, "We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we go and buy food for all these people." 14 For there were about five thousand men.

Then He said to His disciples, "Make them sit down in groups of fifty." 15 And they did so, and made them all sit down.

16 Then He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the multitude. 17 So they all ate and were filled, and twelve baskets of the leftover fragments were taken up by them.

### **2 Kings 4:1-7 Elisha and the Widow's Oil**

1 A certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets cried out to Elisha, saying, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that your servant feared the LORD. And the creditor is coming to take my two sons to be his slaves."

2 So 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 but a jar of oil."

3 Then he said, "Go, borrow vessels from everywhere, from all your neighbors—empty vessels; do not gather just a few. 4 And when you have come in, you shall shut the door behind you and your sons; then pour it into all those vessels, and set aside the full ones."

5 So she went from him and shut the door behind her and her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured it out. 6 Now it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said to her son, "Bring me another vessel."

And he said to her, "There is not another vessel." So the oil ceased. 7 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 live on the rest."

### **2 Peter 1:2-8 Fruitful Growth in the Faith**

2 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, 3 as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, 4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

5 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, 6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, 7 to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. 8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 1:3-9 Everything that goes into a life of pleasing God has been miraculously given to us by getting to know, personally and intimately, the One who invited us to God. The best invitation we ever received! We were also given absolutely terrific promises to pass on to you—your tickets to participation in the life of God after you turned your back on a world corrupted by lust.

5-9 So don't lose a minute in building on what you've been given, complementing your basic faith with good character, spiritual understanding, alert discipline, passionate patience, reverent wonder, warm friendliness, and generous love, each dimension fitting into and developing the others. With these qualities active and growing in your lives, no grass will grow under your feet, no day will pass without its reward as you mature in your experience of our Master Jesus. Without these qualities you can't see what's right before you, oblivious that your old sinful life has been wiped off the books. (Message)

**Matthew 13:32:32** Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field, which indeed is the least of all the seeds; but when it is grown it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches."

**James 2:19,20** You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? <sup>[a]</sup>**Footnotes:** [James 2:20](#) NU-Text reads **useless.** (NKJV)

**James 2:19-20** Do I hear you professing to believe in the one and only God, but then observe you complacently sitting back as if you had done something wonderful? That's just great. Demons do that, but what good does it do them? Use your heads! Do you suppose for a minute that you can cut faith and works in two and not end up with a corpse on your hands?  
(MESSAGE)

**Ephesians 2:7-10** Now God has us where he wants us, with all the time in this world and the next to shower grace and kindness upon us in Christ Jesus. Saving is all his idea, and all his work. All we do is trust him enough to let him do it. It's God's gift from start to finish! We don't play the major role. If we did, we'd probably go around bragging that we'd done the whole thing! No, we neither make nor save ourselves. God does both the making and saving. He creates each of us by Christ Jesus to join him in the work he does, the good work he has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing.