What do you have in your hand – Lesson on starting where you are with what you have.

As people we always find and create excuses that keep us from doing the very things we need to do to achieve success and growth. One of our biggest excuse is lack; a lack of resource, lack of motivation, lack of time. It goes something like this…

I don't have enough money to start my business

I don't have motivation to study

I don't have enough time to exercise…

We have all made these excuses and that is how our New Year's Resolutions have fallen by the wayside. As the year begins, we will look at how God has helped excuse makers by looking at two characters whom God blessed through their little.

1. Moses – Moses had a deep desire to help his brethren from the slavery of Egypt, but he didn't know how he could achieve it. God calls him from the wilderness, but Moses is doubtful that his brethren will believe that he has been called by God. God asks Moses; "what is in your hand?", Moses answers and says; "a rod". Then God asks Moses to throw the rod and it became a snake, this was the sign Moses was to use for the children of Israel. Moses makes a second excuse that He is not eloquent, and God assures him that He will be with him and not only that he will use his brother Aaron to speak through him. (see Exodus chapter 4)

2. The widow with the oil miracle – 1 Kings 4:1-7 A widow comes to Elisha to ask for help because her sons are about to be taken as slaves by her debtors. Elisha asks the widow: "Tell me, what do you have in this house?", the widow answers and says; "your maidservant has nothing but a jar of oil". From here onwards Elisha asks her to borrow as many jars as she can possibly borrow from her neighbours and pour the oil into all the jars, this women does this and miraculously the little oil is able to fit into all the jars which then Elisha tells her to sell and pay off her debts.

There are many more examples in the Bible where we clearly see God asking us to use the little we have to fulfil our duties and calling. The parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30) teaches us that we should never hide our talents no matter how small, but we should use them and more will be added as we use the little we have.

So, as the New Year begins, whatever God has put into your heart to do, do it. Do not neglect any duty for whatever reason, use everything you have no matter how small, have faith in God, trust that as you reach out and do the little you can, God will bless you and multiply your little.

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