

#7 "PROVISION"

Psalm 127:1

God wants to meet needs in your house.

2 Kings 4:1-7 (NIV) The wife of a man from the company of the prophets cried out to Elisha, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that he revered the LORD. But now his creditor is coming to take my two boys as his slaves." Elisha replied to her, "How can I help you? Tell me, what do you have in your house?" "Your servant has nothing there at all," she said, "except a little oil." Elisha said, "Go around and ask all your neighbors for empty jars. Don't ask for just a few. Then go inside and shut the door behind you and your sons. Pour oil into all the jars, and as each is filled, put it to one side." She left him and afterward shut the door behind her and her sons. They brought the jars to her and she kept pouring. When all the jars were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another one." But he replied, "There is not a jar left." Then the oil stopped flowing. She went and told the man of God, and he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debts. You and your sons can live on what is left."

- Realize that lack is a part of life.

Lack is *"the state of being without or not having enough of something; to run a deficit or be deficient in something."*

- When in need, go to God.

- ◆ God already knows your needs.

Matthew 10:29-31 (NIV) Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

- ◆ God cares about your needs.

Matthew 6:30 (NIV) If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

- ◆ God wants you to bring your needs to Him.

Matthew 11:28 (NIV) Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Hebrews 4:16 (NIV) Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

- ◆ God is able to meet your needs.

Philippians 4:19 (NIV) And my God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

Genesis 22:8 (NIV) Abraham answered, "God Himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together.

Genesis 22:13-14 (NIV) Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

- See the seed God has placed in your house.

Your seed may be:

- ◆ A gift God wants you to give.
- ◆ An attitude God wants you to change.
- ◆ A relationship God wants you to mend.
- ◆ An idea God wants you to develop.
- ◆ A process God wants you to employ.
- ◆ A commitment God wants you to make.
- ◆ A responsibility God wants you to embrace.
- ◆ An act of service God wants you to perform.

- Participate in God's miracle-working process.

Lack and need test our:

- ◆ Faith.
 - 2 Kings 4:3
 - Matthew 9:29
- ◆ Obedience.
 - 2 Kings 4:4-5
- ◆ Faithfulness and persistence.
 - 2 Kings 4:5-6

- Expect God to provide – abundantly!