

It's Time For A New Outlook – Teacher Copy

Genesis 13:14-17 (NLT)

14 After Lot had gone, the Lord said to Abram, “Look as far as you can see in every direction—north and south, east and west.

15 I am giving all this land, as far as you can see, to you and your descendants as a permanent possession.

16 And I will give you so many descendants that, like the dust of the earth, they cannot be counted!

17 Go and walk through the land in every direction, for I am giving it to you.”

If you are familiar with the ministry of Jesus, you are aware of His ministry of healing people. However, the group he seemed to focus on healing the most was blind men. We strongly believe that in 2021 your ability to hear God and see what He is saying will greatly influence the impact you have for the Kingdom, and the rewards you receive here on earth.

Rather we know it or not, our ability to see is influencing our capacity to receive from God. In the scriptures we just read, Abram is having a conversation with God. But, verse 14 gives us some great insight. The Bible intentionally tells us that none of this happens until after Lot has gone. God doesn't even begin to show Abraham what he has planned until his distraction is out of the way. God says, “As far as you can see, in every direction, I'm giving it all to you.” Abram's ability to see as with us will determine how far we can go in life. With this in mind, let's examine: **It's Time For A New Outlook**

Isaiah 6:1-4 (NLT)

6 It was in the year King Uzziah died that I saw the Lord. He was sitting on a lofty throne, and the train of his robe filled the Temple.

2 Attending him were mighty seraphim, each having six wings. With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew.

3 They were calling out to each other, “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Heaven’s Armies! The whole earth is filled with his glory!”

4 Their voices shook the Temple to its foundations, and the entire building was filled with smoke.

If the current pandemic has done anything, it is given people an excuse to be distracted. What is hindering you from seeing God? Whatever or whoever it is, it’s not their fault. Somewhere in your heart/soul, their voice has become more important to you than God’s. The Prophet Isaiah couldn’t even see the Lord, because he was too busy looking at Uzziah. **If we are to see God during this season, we must stop looking through dirty windows (distractions) and start looking into the clear mirror of God's word. He will always clearly express His plan for our lives.**

1. My new outlook means eliminating _____.

2 Kings 4:1-7 (NLT)

1 One day the widow of a member of the group of prophets came to Elisha and cried out, “My husband who served you is dead, and you know how he feared the Lord. But now a creditor has come, threatening to take my two sons as slaves.”

2 “What can I do to help you?” Elisha asked. “Tell me, what do you have in the house?” “Nothing at all, except a flask of olive oil,” she replied.

3 And Elisha said, “Borrow as many empty jars as you can from your friends and neighbors.

4 Then go into your house with your sons and shut the door behind you. Pour olive oil from your flask into the jars, setting each one aside when it is filled.”

5 So she did as she was told. Her sons kept bringing jars to her, and she filled one after another.

6 Soon every container was full to the brim! “Bring me another jar,” she said to one of her sons. “There aren’t any more!” he told her. And then the olive oil stopped flowing.

7 When she told the man of God what had happened, he said to her, “Now sell the olive oil and pay your debts, and you and your sons can live on what is left over.”

Our God is so amazing. He never leaves us without supplying everything we need. One of the main problems is that it’s not easily recognized. The Prophet asked the woman, “What do you have in your house?” She answered, “I don’t have anything at all, except a little jar of oil.” The very thing she thought was nothing, ended up being a lifetime income for her and her sons. **Stop discounting what you have and get a new outlook.**

2. My new outlook involves acquiring a current _____.

John 6:5-12 NASB)

5 So Jesus, after raising His eyes and seeing that a large crowd was coming to Him, *said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread so that these people may eat?”

6 But He was saying this only to test him, for He Himself knew what He intended to do.

7 Philip answered Him, “Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not enough for them, for each to receive just a little!”

8 One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, *said to Him,

9 “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what are these for so many people?”

10 Jesus said, “Have the people recline to eat.” Now there was plenty of grass in the place. So the men reclined, about five thousand in number.

11 Jesus then took the loaves, and after giving thanks He distributed them to those who were reclining; likewise also of the fish, as much as they wanted.

12 And when they had eaten their fill, He *said to His disciples, “Gather up the leftover pieces so that nothing will be lost.”

In life, we all can arrive at times where our resources seem insufficient. Even the disciples thought they didn't have enough. But, Andrew checked with Jesus to see if they were right. He says, “The boy has five biscuits and two fish. But what is that for so many people?” **They invited Jesus’ professional opinion as to the value of what they had.** And Jesus says, “Not only is it enough. But gather up the leftovers. So, nothing will go to waste.” **IF GOD GAVE IT TO YOU, HE PLANS ON MAKING IT MORE THAN ENOUGH, IF YOU LET HIM.**

3. My new outlook includes having a professional _____ I.

Mark 8:22-25 (NLT)

22 When they arrived at Bethsaida, some people brought a blind man to Jesus, and they begged him to touch the man and heal him.

23 Jesus took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village. Then, spitting on the man’s eyes, he laid his hands on him and asked, “Can you see anything now?”

24 The man looked around. “Yes,” he said, “I see people, but I can’t see them very clearly. They look like trees walking around.”

25 Then Jesus placed his hands on the man’s eyes again, and his eyes were opened. His sight was completely restored, and he could see everything clearly.

The lens we look through and what we choose to focus on is influencing our ability to overcome. Jesus asked the man, “How do you see things?” The man responds, “I see men as trees walking.” He was bettered, but not well. Many of us find ourselves in the same situation as the blind man. Giving our lives to the Lord and being in a faith environment has changed

us. However, we must allow the Holy Spirit, God's Word and your pastors to correct our blurred vision.

4. My new outlook requires a correction of _____.

1 Kings 18:41-44 (NLT)

41 Then Elijah said to Ahab, "Go get something to eat and drink, for I hear a mighty rainstorm coming!"

42 So Ahab went to eat and drink. But Elijah climbed to the top of Mount Carmel and bowed low to the ground and prayed with his face between his knees.

43 Then he said to his servant, "Go and look out toward the sea." The servant went and looked, then returned to Elijah and said, "I didn't see anything." Seven times Elijah told him to go and look.

44 Finally the seventh time, his servant told him, "I saw a little cloud about the size of a man's hand rising from the sea." Then Elijah shouted, "Hurry to Ahab and tell him, 'Climb into your chariot and go back home. If you don't hurry, the rain will stop you!'"

The Bible says, "Believe in God and you will be established. Believe his prophets and you will have success." People will always tell you, there's no shortcut to success. However, God has created a blueprint and a map to success. It's mentorship. Mentorship is experience without the pain of experience. When you find the right mentor, you find an elevator to the next level. **A MENTOR WILL CHANGE YOUR FOCUS AND CORRECT YOUR OUTLOOK!!**

5. My new outlook necessitates obedience to a trusted _____.

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