

But Wait There's More

Ps Gary Swenson

Life full of Surprises

Life has ups and downs

- For Us
Life roller coaster. Slow start full of surprises
 - For Early Christian
Palm Sunday celebration, within 7 days later Jesus arrested, next day crucified; 3 days later resurrection; Jesus present for 40 days; ascension. Before He left He said in effect "Wait for me there is more" (the Promise of the Father), Pentecost, birth of Church, millions attracted, history shaped
- They had no idea of the more
 - God is the God of more
 - There is more for the church and for us to impact our dysfunctional world through transforming power.

More in Scripture

- ✓ The word "More" is translated 584 times
- ✓ More is a good thing – snack – 1 more; sleep 10 minutes more
- ✓ God is the God of more

Eph 3:20 NIV "Now to him who is able to do immeasurably **more** than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us,"

- Limitation is not with God
- Whatever you imagine God is bigger than it.
- His power is at work in us.

Rom 8:37 NKJV "Yet in all these things we are **more** than conquerors through Him who loved us."

Jn 10:12 (Passion) More to say to us

God has more to say to you. Old or young Life We can have seen a scripture multiple times and get something new

Same concept **Ps23:5** "...My cup overflows with blessings."

Matt 14:20 the miracle of the Loaves and fishers - "more than enough" supplied and plenty to spare - "They all ate as much as they wanted, and afterward, the disciples picked up twelve baskets of leftovers."

2 Kng 4:1-7 Background – Prophet died and wife threatened by creditor as had nothing to pay amounts owing (there was no centerlink) Likely option was to sell sons as slaves 4:1

Ending – had oil so filled every available container – her own and borrowed.

Elisha – "what do you have?" 4:2

- **His** power at work within us
- Other Powers at work within us - negative thinking, unforgiveness, hurt, discouragement, fear
- The "more of God" is limited to the capacity we provide
- If I am alive God's got more for me.
- Journey of life can knock our expectation around, but God has more.
- **Pro 4:18** "But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day."
 - Life's journey gets brighter and brighter
 - What is the perfect day? Day we meet Jesus.
 - But Jesus does not put us in bubble wrap – in life will have troubles.
- There are different seasons in life. But God always has something more

Jn 10:10 "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it **more** abundantly."

- Jesus came that we may have life more abundantly

Blessed to be a blessing

- The purpose of the overflow is for us to be a blessing. (Splash others with joy and enthusiasm rather than negativity)
- Sometimes we aid and abet the thief by leaving the door open and harbouring unforgiveness, and poor thinking.
- Illustration - The more of Jesus is like in Crocodile Dundee "that's not a knife. This is a knife"
- Jesus – this is life
- The key to knowing more is abiding. **Jn 15**
- A life cut off from its source turns green life to brown.
- We can choose to abide as life is full of options, choices.

- God created us to be creative.
- Everyone knows they have capacity for more.
- No matter what the season of life (young or old) there are possibilities.
- The fruit of the Spirit should touch others.
- His resources are never ending.
- Illustration – A second child does not mean parents can only love the first half as much.
- God’s nature is love.

Challenge

- What more has God put in you that has not yet been explored or developed?
- The church options are not just to be apostle, prophet, teacher etc in the church
- Illustration – Pastor talking up music again (3 families in church from puns as a result), person providing board games
- God has put stuff in you you enjoy.
- What more has God put in you that has not yet been explored or developed?
- Never too old to impact (ie GS at Paul McCartney concert – inspiration. 81 year old doing 3 hour non-stop concert.
- We need to make a difference while we can.
- We need to be looking at moving forward.
- We should live life to the full.
- Simple things that can make the difference
- Ask yourself “What do you want the next season to look like?”
- Seasons change but God is the God of more **Jn 15:11** (AMP) *“I have told you these things so that My joy and delight may be in you, and that your joy may be made full and complete and overflowing.”*
- Don’t live by the many excuses for being less.

Level Playing Field

- The music scale only ever has 12 notes
- All songs come from that
- An excuse like “I need 13 notes” does not cut it – you don’t.
- His mercies are new every morning for all
- Sometimes we are in a rut but God always has more.
- Let’s dream again.