Life Church Smyrna
Sunday, January 1, 2017 | 10:30am
Pastor Shell Osbon

Deuteronomy 1:6-7a  6“When we were at Mount Sinai, the Lord our God said to us, ‘You have stayed at this mountain long enough. 7It is time to break camp and move on.’”  (NLT)

1. Our  Identity

Jeremiah 32:17  “O Sovereign Lord! You made the heavens and earth by Your strong hand and powerful arm. Nothing is too hard for You!”  (NLT)

Matthew 19:26  “Jesus looked at them intently and said, ‘Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible.’”  (NLT)

2. Physical  Impossibilities Are Possibilities

Matthew 9:20-22  20“A woman who had suffered for twelve years with constant bleeding came up behind Him. She touched the fringe of His robe, 21for she thought, ‘If I can just touch His robe, I will be healed.’ 22Jesus turned around, and when He saw her He said, ‘Daughter, be encouraged! Your faith has made you well.’ And the woman was healed at that moment.”  (NLT)

John 9:1-6-7  1“As Jesus was walking along, He saw a man who had been blind from birth. 2Then He spit on the ground, made mud with the saliva, and spread the mud over the blind man’s eyes. 3He told him, ‘Go wash yourself in the pool of Siloam.’ So the man went and washed and came back seeing!”  (NLT)

John 5:2-9b  2“Inside the city, near the Sheep Gate, was the pool of Bethesda, with five covered porches. 3Crowds of sick people - blind, lame, or paralyzed - lay on the porches. 4One of the men lying there had been sick for thirty-eight years. 5When Jesus saw him and knew he had been ill for a long time, He asked him, ‘Would you like to get well?’ 6‘I can’t, sir,’ the sick man said, ‘for I have no one to put me into the pool when the water bubbles up. Someone else always gets there ahead of me.’ 7Jesus told him, ‘Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk!’ 8Instantly, the man was healed! He rolled up his sleeping mat and began walking!”  (NLT)

3. Financial  Impossibilities Are Possibilities

2 Kings 4:1-7  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?’ 3‘Nothing at all, except a flask of olive oil,’ she replied. 4And Elisha said, ‘Borrow as many empty jars as you can from your friends and neighbors. 5Then 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.’ 6So she did as she was told. Her sons kept bringing jars to her, and she filled one after another. 7Soon 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. 8When 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.’”  (NLT)

Malachi 3:8-11  8Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, ‘In what way have we robbed You?’ In tithes and offerings. 9You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me, even this whole nation. 10Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house and try Me now in this,’ says the Lord of hosts, ‘If I will not open the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. 11And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,’ Says the Lord of hosts.”  (NLT)

Matthew 14:15-21  15“That evening the disciples came to Him and said, ‘This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves.’ 16But Jesus said, ‘That isn’t necessary - you feed them.’ 17But we have only five loaves and two fish!’ they answered. 18‘Bring them here,’ He said. 19Then He told the people to sit down on the grass. Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up toward heaven, and blessed them. Then, breaking the loaves into pieces, He gave the bread to the disciples, who distributed it to the people. 20They all ate as much as they wanted, and afterward, the disciples picked up twelve baskets of leftovers. 21About 5,000 men were fed that day, in addition to all the women and children!”  (NLT)

The big idea: All things really are possible with God!
Deuteronomy 1:6-7a  

“"When we were at Mount Sinai, the Lord our God said to us, ‘You have stayed at this mountain long enough. 7 It is time to break camp and move on.’” (NLT)
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ARE WE THERE YET?! part one
Are We There Yet?!

Our Identity: A Place Of Endless Possibilities!
Jeremiah 32:17  “O Sovereign Lord! You made the heavens and earth by Your strong hand and powerful arm. Nothing is too hard for You!”  (NLT)

Jeremiah was convinced that nothing was too hard for God to handle!

Matthew 19:26  “Jesus looked at them intently and said, ‘Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible.’”  (NLT)

God can do everything humans cannot do!
2. **Physical Impossibilities Are Possibilities**

Matthew 9:20-22  

“...A woman who had suffered for twelve years with constant bleeding came up behind Him. She touched the fringe of His robe, for she thought, ‘If I can just touch His robe, I will be healed.’ Jesus turned around, and when He saw her He said, ‘Daughter, be encouraged! Your faith has made you well.’ And the woman was healed at that moment.” (NLT)

This lady’s 12 year impossibility turned into a possibility when she touched Jesus!
John 9:1,6-7  
1“As Jesus was walking along, He saw a man who had been blind from birth.  
6Then He spit on the ground, made mud with the saliva, and spread the mud over the blind man’s eyes.  
7He told him, ‘Go wash yourself in the pool of Siloam.’ So the man went and washed and came back seeing!” (NLT)

Even though His method was bizarre, Jesus healed this man who had been blind since birth!

John 5:2-9b  
2“Inside the city, near the Sheep Gate, was the pool of Bethesda, with five covered porches.  
3Crowds of sick people - blind, lame, or paralyzed - lay on the porches.  
5One of the men lying there had been sick for thirty-eight years.  
6When Jesus saw him and knew he had been ill for a long time, He asked him, ‘Would you like to get well?’  
7‘I can’t, sir,’ the sick man said, ‘for I have no one to put me into the pool when the water bubbles up. Someone else always gets there ahead of me.’” (cont’d)
8Jesus told him, ‘Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk!’ 9Instantly, the man was healed! He rolled up his sleeping mat and began walking!’ (NLT)

This man’s 38 year impossibility turned into a possibility when he encountered Jesus!

3. Financial Impossibilities Are Possibilities
2 Kings 4:1-7 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. 3And Elisha said, ‘Borrow as many empty jars as you can from your friends and neighbors.  (cont’d)

4Then 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.’ 5So she did as she was told. Her sons kept bringing jars to her, and she filled one after another. 6Soon 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.  (cont’d)
7When 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.’” (NLT)

Because of her obedience, God miraculously provided for this widow woman and her sons!

Malachi 3:8-11 8“Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, ‘In what way have we robbed You?’ In tithes and offerings. 9You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me, even this whole nation. 10Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house and try Me now in this,’ says the Lord of hosts, ‘If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. (cont’d)
And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,’ Says the Lord of hosts.” (NLT)

God’s promise to abundantly bless you and rebuke the devourer is connected to your obedience.

Matthew 14:15-21 15“That evening the disciples came to Him and said, ‘This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves.’ 16But Jesus said, ‘That isn’t necessary - you feed them.’ 17‘But we have only five loaves of bread and two fish!’ they answered. 18‘Bring them here,’ He said. 19Then He told the people to sit down on the grass. Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up toward heaven, and blessed them. (cont’d)
Then, breaking the loaves into pieces, He gave the bread to the disciples, who distributed it to the people. 20 They all ate as much as they wanted, and afterward, the disciples picked up twelve baskets of leftovers. 21 About 5,000 men were fed that day, in addition to all the women and children!” (NLT)

There is no limit to how the Lord can provide when the need is humanly impossible to meet!

the big idea

All things really are possible with God!
we’re all about...

Loving God!
Loving People!
Loving Life!

ARE WE THERE YET?!
part one