

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 885

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The Cracked Pot

A water bearer in India had two large pots which hung on opposite ends of a pole that he carried across his neck. One of the pots had a crack in it, and while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water at the end of the long walk from the stream to the master's house, the cracked pot arrived only half full.

For a full two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots of water to his master's house. Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments—perfect to the end for which it was made. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do.

After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you."

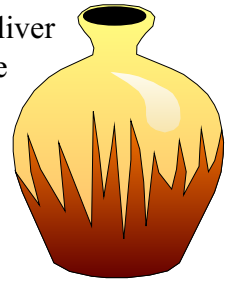
"Why?" asked the bearer. "What are you ashamed of?"

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Sunday 9 AM & 4 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

"I have been able, for these past two years, to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your master's house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all of this work, and you don't get full value from your efforts," the pot said.



The water bearer felt sorry for the old cracked pot, and in his compassion he said, "As we return to the master's house, I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the path."

Indeed, as they went up the hill, the old cracked pot took notice of the sun warming the beautiful wild flowers on the side of the path, and this cheered it some. But at the end of the trail, it still felt bad because it had leaked out half its load, and so again it apologized to the bearer for its failure.

The bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of your path, but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, and I took advantage of it. I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back from the stream, you've watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate my master's table. Without you being just the way you are, he would not have this beauty to grace his house."



Each of us has our own unique flaws. We are all cracked pots. But if we will allow it, the Lord will use our flaws to grace His Father's table.

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News

—Continue to remember **Jean Coffey, Sally Marshall, Jewell Watkins, Jimmy Terry, Audrey Terry, and Alroy McDaniel.**

—**Rhonda Shively**, the sister-in-law of Melissa Shively, has cancer in an advanced stage and the family has asked for our prayers.

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In God's great economy, nothing goes to waste. So as we seek ways to minister together, and as God calls you to the tasks He has appointed for you, don't be afraid of your flaws. Acknowledge them, and allow Him to take advantage of them, and you too can be the cause of beauty in His pathway. Go out boldly, knowing that in our weakness we find His strength.

—adapted via Rose Bozarth
Berryville, Arkansas

note— Hebrews 11:34 in referring to the faithful to whom we look it says that they "*out of weakness were made strong.*" The LORD can, and will, make us strong from our weaknesses. —Marty

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In Joshua 7 the children of Israel failed to capture the small city of Ai after capturing Jericho. The reason was simple— the Lord had commanded them not to take any of the spoils from Jericho, but a man named Achan disobeyed this commandment.

Achan was stoned to death because of his sin, but note what happened to his family. They, along with Achan's worldly possessions, were brought to the valley of Achor. They were then stoned and burned.

His family had to suffer because of his sin. Will your children be lost or saved because of your influence?

—Marty Edwards❖

Sunday, February 12, 2012		
Classes	14	Luke 19:29-48
Preaching	21	Hebrews 11:32-12:xx
Contribution	\$734.00	
Evening	12	Zechariah 1:1-4:14
Wednesday, February 15, 2012		
Classes	18	Deuteronomy 19:1-21

Visitors— Feb 12 (AM) April Thompson (Hardyville, KY); Brent Goad (Glasgow, KY)

Bible Quiz

Zechariah saw what two kinds of tress on the right and left side of the candlestick?

Last Week's Answer— The LORD (Deuteronomy 18:1, 2)



A million dollars & a bale of hay will be worth the same on judgment day.



—God's Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)