

Leading a Legacy

Anonymous Obedience (Week 1)

LifeNotes

TALK IT OVER

Main Idea

Leading a legacy begins in the anonymous moments of simple obedience.

Key Scriptures

This is the command, the decrees and the laws the Lord your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the Lord your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. Deuteronomy 6:1-2

So he went to Zarephath. As he arrived at the gates of the village, he saw a widow gathering sticks, and he asked her, "Would you please bring me a little water in a cup?" As she was going to get it, he called to her, "Bring me a bite of bread, too." But she said, "I swear by the Lord your God that I don't have a single piece of bread in the house. And I have only a handful of flour left in the jar and a little cooking oil in the bottom of the jug. I was just gathering a few sticks to cook this last meal, and then my son and I will die." But Elijah said to her, "Don't be afraid! Go ahead and do just what you've said, but make a little bread for me first. Then use what's left to prepare a meal for yourself and your son. For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: There will always be flour and olive oil left in your containers until the time when the Lord sends rain and the crops grow again!" So she did as Elijah said, and she and Elijah and her family continued to eat for many days. There was always enough flour and olive oil left in the containers, just as the Lord had promised through Elijah. 1 Kings 17:10-16 NLT

And when all the people saw it, they fell face down on the ground and cried out, "The Lord—he is God! Yes, the Lord is God!" 1 Kings 18:39 NLT

But when you give to someone in need, don't let our left hand know what your right hand is doing. Give your gifts in private, and your Father, who sees everything, will reward you. Matthew 6:3-4 NLT

Anonymous obedience is seen and rewarded.

Start talking.

- What are examples of "headline choices" vs. anonymous choices?
- Why are we so often drawn to, and celebrate the grand gestures?

Start thinking.

- Read Deuteronomy 6:1-2. What is the "command"? How does Moses define the "why"? What's the gravy?

- Read 1 Kings 17:10-11. Why would this have been a big request?
- Read 1 Kings 17:12. What do we learn about this woman?
- Read 1 Kings 17:13-14. What is the promise?
- Read 1 Kings 17:15-16. God's promise depended on what from the Widow?
- Read 1 Kings 18:39. What role did the Widow's faithfulness play on Mt. Carmel?

Start sharing.

- Describe ways you feel your good choices go unnoticed.
- Read Matthew 6:3-4. How does this connect to anonymous obedience? How does this encourage you?
- What legacy would you like to leave?
- Who are the ones in the next generation that you can pour into?

Start doing.

- Define the stakes for yourself and the generations that come after you.
- What simple choice of obedience will you make this week?

Closing prayer.

Lord God I praise you! I thank you that even when I feel unknown and anonymous, you see me. Give me the courage and faith to lead myself well in the each anonymous moment. To choose obedience knowing it is for my good, and the generations that come after me. Amen