

What Does It Mean to be “An Extraordinary Follower of Christ”?

The Lord of the Flour Jar

I. Introduction

A. “Transforming ordinary people into extraordinary Followers of Christ.”

II. What Does It Mean to be “An Extraordinary Follower of Christ”?

A. Commitment to Christ

1. Received Christ as Lord and Savior (Born Again)
2. Water baptized
3. Worshipper of God
4. Obedience to Christ and His Word

B. Commitment to His Church

1. Membership (Newcomers' class)
2. Consistent attendance
3. Small group participation
4. Giving of Finances
5. Serving

C. Commitment to His Cause

1. Sharing your faith
2. Being an inviter
3. Leading and discipling others
4. Ministering to others
5. Ministering to the poor
6. Local and global outreach

D. I Kings 17:10-11 (NLT) ¹⁰So 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?” ¹¹As she was going to get it, he called to her, “Bring me a bite of bread, too.”

E. I Kings 17:12 (NLT) *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.”*

F. I Kings 17:13-14 (NLT) ¹³But 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. ¹⁴For 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!”

G. I Kings 17:15-16 (NLT) ¹⁵So she did as Elijah said, and she and Elijah and her son continued to eat for many days. ¹⁶There was always enough flour and olive oil left in the containers, just as the LORD had promised through Elijah.

H. Prov. 11:24 (NAS) *There is one who scatters, and yet increases all the more, And there is one who withholds what is justly due, and yet it results only in want.*

- I. Luke 6:38a (NAS) *“Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure—pressed down, shaken together, and running over.”*
- J. Malachi 3:8a (NAS) *“Will a man rob God?”*
- K. Malachi 3:8b (NAS) *“Yet you are robbing Me! But you say, ‘How have we robbed You?’ In tithes and offerings.”*
- L. Malachi 3:10 (NAS) *“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test 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 a blessing until it overflows.”*

III. Conclusion