

Man of God – Part 2

Points to Consider

1. A Person of God Pursues Faith (continued)
2. A Person of God Pursues Love
3. A Person of God Pursues Patience and Gentleness

A Person of God Pursues Faith (continued)

2 Kings 6:16-18 *So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." 17 And Elisha prayed, and said, "Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. 18 So when the Syrians came down to him, Elisha prayed to the Lord, and said, "Strike this people, I pray, with blindness." And He struck them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.*

Elisha had enough faith to know that regardless of the size of the enemy's army, God's army is **always** bigger!

2 Kings 6:24-25 *And it happened after this that Ben-Hadad king of Syria gathered all his army, and went up and besieged Samaria. 25 And there was a great famine in Samaria; and indeed they besieged it until a donkey's head was sold for eighty shekels of silver, and one-fourth of a kab of dove droppings for five shekels of silver. NKJV*

2 Kings 7:1-2 *Then Elisha said, "Hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord: 'Tomorrow about this time a seah of fine flour shall be sold for a shekel, and two seahs of barley for a shekel, at the gate of Samaria.'" 2 So an officer on whose hand the king leaned answered the man of God and said, "Look, if the Lord would make windows in heaven, could this thing be?" And he said, "In fact, you shall see it with your eyes, but you shall not eat of it." NKJV*

Elisha had enough faith to pray a prayer everyone else thought was **impossible**.

1 Kings 17:12-16 *So she said, "As the Lord your God lives, I do not have bread, only a handful of flour in a bin, and a little oil in a jar; and see, I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die." 13 And Elijah said to her, "Do not fear; go and do as you have said, but make me a small cake from it first, and bring it to me; and afterward make some for yourself and your son. 14 For thus says the Lord God of Israel: 'The bin of flour shall not be used up, nor shall the jar of oil run dry, until the day the Lord sends rain on the earth.'" 15 So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah; and she and he and her household ate for many days. 16 The bin of flour was not used up, nor did the jar of oil run dry, according to the word of the Lord which He spoke by Elijah. NKJV*

You don't have to be a prophet of God to act in **faith**!

So What?

- Pray an extraordinary prayer. Don't out pray your faith and don't pray outside of God's will, but pray a prayer outside your comfort zone.

- Suggestions: Pray to overcome a spiritual weakness. Pray to overcome a financial barrier. Pray to overcome a sickness. Pray to overcome a fear. Pray for a lost soul.
- Pray for God to open the eyes of someone so they can see the help God is providing for them.
- Take a baby step of faith.

A Person of God Pursues Love

2 Kings 4:5-7 *So she went from him and shut the door behind her and her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured it out. 6 Now it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said to her son, "Bring me another vessel." And he said to her, "There is not another vessel." So the oil ceased. 7 Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debt; and you and your sons live on the rest."* NKJV

Elisha's love and compassion for this woman motivated him to help her and her sons avoid the consequences of her late husband's debt.

2 Kings 8:1-6 *Then Elisha spoke to the woman whose son he had restored to life, saying, "Arise and go, you and your household, and stay wherever you can; for the Lord has called for a famine, and furthermore, it will come upon the land for seven years." 2 So the woman arose and did according to the saying of the man of God, and she went with her household and dwelt in the land of the Philistines seven years. 3 It came to pass, at the end of seven years, that the woman returned from the land of the Philistines; and she went to make an appeal to the king for her house and for her land. 4 Then the king talked with Gehazi, the servant of the man of God, saying, "Tell me, please, all the great things Elisha has done." 5 Now it happened, as he was telling the king how he had restored the dead to life, that there was the woman whose son he had restored to life, appealing to the king for her house and for her land. And Gehazi said, "My lord, O king, this is the woman, and this is her son whom Elisha restored to life." 6 And when the king asked the woman, she told him. So the king appointed a certain officer for her, saying, "Restore all that was hers, and all the proceeds of the field from the day that she left the land until now." NKJV*

Elisha loved this woman enough to warn her of impending danger.

Elisha loved this woman and her son enough to send Gehazi to the king to request her land back.

This was the same woman who had convinced her husband to build Elisha a room and furnish it with a bed, a table, a chair and a lamp.

Also, this woman had enough faith to do what Elisha told her to do.

So What?

Our love is proven by our actions.

Do something out of the ordinary for someone you love.

A Person of God Pursues Patience and Gentleness

Ex 5:20-21 *Then, as they came out from Pharaoh, they met Moses and Aaron who stood there to meet them. 21 And they said to them, "Let the Lord look on you and judge, because you have made us abhorrent in the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to kill us."*

Moses needed patience with the children of Israel after his **first** encounter with Pharaoh.
Moses was extending to the people the **same** patience God extended to him.
Moses was patient through the 10 plagues.

Ex 14:1-4 *Now the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: 2 "Speak to the children of Israel, that they turn and camp before Pi Hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, opposite Baal Zephon; you shall camp before it by the sea. 3 For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, 'They are bewildered by the land; the wilderness has closed them in.' 4 Then I will harden Pharaoh's heart, so that he will pursue them; and I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, that the Egyptians may know that I am the Lord." And they did so. NKJV*

An impatient man may have **argued** with God. Moses didn't flinch when God told him that Pharaoh was about to come chase them down.

Ex 14:10-14 *And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them. So they were very afraid, and the children of Israel cried out to the Lord. 11 Then they said to Moses, "Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt? 12 Is this not the word that we told you in Egypt, saying, 'Let us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness." 13 And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. 14 The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace." NKJV*

Moses was patient and **gentle** with the people when they complained that he had even come in the first place.

Ex 15:22-25 *So Moses brought Israel from the Red Sea; then they went out into the Wilderness of Shur. And they went three days in the wilderness and found no water. 23 Now when they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter. Therefore the name of it was called Marah. 24 And the people complained against Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?" 25 So he cried out to the Lord, and the Lord showed him a tree. When he cast it into the waters, the waters were made sweet. NKJV*

Ex 16:1-3 *And they journeyed from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came to the Wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the **fifteenth day of the second month** after they departed from the land of Egypt. 2 Then the whole congregation of the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. 3 And the children of Israel said to them, "Oh, that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and when we ate bread to the full! For you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." NKJV*

In just **one** month they have already complained about leaving Egypt at least three times.

Ex 17:1-4 *Then all the congregation of the children of Israel set out on their journey from the Wilderness of Sin, according to the commandment of the Lord, and camped in Rephidim; but there was no water for the people to drink. 2 Therefore the people contended with Moses, and said, "Give us water, that we may drink." So Moses said to them, "Why do you contend with me? Why do you tempt the Lord?" 3 And the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses, and said, "Why is it you have brought us up out of Egypt, to*

kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" 4 So Moses cried out to the Lord, saying, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me!" NKJV

Ex 24:13-18 *So Moses arose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up to the mountain of God. 14 And he said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we come back to you. Indeed, Aaron and Hur are with you. If any man has a difficulty, let him go to them." 15 Then Moses went up into the mountain, and a cloud covered the mountain. 16 Now the glory of the Lord rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. 17 The sight of the glory of the Lord was like a consuming fire on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel. 18 So Moses went into the midst of the cloud and went up into the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights. NKJV*

After Moses and the 70 elders shared a covenant meal with God, Moses went back up the mountain alone to receive more details of the covenant.

God didn't call to Moses until the seventh day.

Ex 32:30-32 *Now it came to pass on the next day that Moses said to the people, "You have committed a great sin. So now I will go up to the Lord; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin." 31 Then Moses returned to the Lord and said, "Oh, these people have committed a great sin, and have made for themselves a god of gold! 32 Yet now, if You will forgive their sin — but if not, I pray, blot me out of Your book which You have written."*

Even though Moses was angry when he came down off the mountain and saw the golden calf, his patience and gentleness were on full display when he asked God to pardon their sins.

In addition, there were more incidents of complaining and multiple rebellions.

None of these "Men of God" exemplified these character traits perfectly all the time. We won't either!

So What?

Moses could extend patience to others because God showed him patience. Never forget your own frailties and imperfections when dealing with others.

Watch the way you talk this week! Improve on your patience and gentleness and have people hold you accountable.