

187. Making Room
By Melodye Perry-Teamer

Greeting

Good morning, or good afternoon. The Lord gave me this word. Sometimes the Holy Spirit preaches to me, gives me these messages and I'm like, "Oh, okay. I got the message. I wrote it down. I don't know where I'm going to speak this, but okay." I tend to write tons and tons of notes on my phone. And so, this is part of the message that the Lord gave me. I want...

Prayer

Let's just pray. Let's pray first. Father God, I just thank you. I thank you, Lord, for this day. I thank you, Lord, for your presence. I thank you, Lord, for the people that are here, that they would be ushered into Your presence, Lord. And we thank you that you are staying, for you just abiding with us today, Father. I thank you, Lord, for the Word that you've given me. I thank you Lord that I execute it, that I be full of You and none of me, Lord. Speak through my mouth, Lord. I thank and I praise You that they will receive it, hallelujah, and will plant this seed that shall manifest a great harvest. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen. Amen.

So as a... Now I can do this. All right. I think I got it (referring to placement of the recording device).

Scripture Reference

So, the Lord gave me this Scripture, and I want you to turn with me to your Bible, Second Kings, chapter four. Second Kings, chapter four, verse eight is where we're going to start. When you have it just say "amen."

(Congregation) Amen.

(Congregation) Amen.

All right. I'm going to be reading from the English Standard Version. So just follow along with me. It says, *"One day, Elisha went on to Shunem where a wealthy woman lived who urged him to eat some food. So, whenever he passed that way, he would turn in there to eat food. And she said to her husband, 'Behold, now, I know that this is a holy man of God who is continuing to pass our way.'"*

The next verse says, *"Let us make a small room on the roof with walls and put there for him a bed, a table, a chair, and a lamp so that whenever he comes to us, he can go in there."* Then it says, *"One day, he came in there and he turned into the chamber and rested there. And he said to Gehazi, his servant, 'Call this Shunamite.' And when he had called her, he stood before him and he said to him, 'Say now to her, see, you have taken all this trouble for us. What is it to be done for you? Would you have a word spoken to the king on your behalf or to the commander of the army?' And she answered, 'I dwell among my own people.' And he said, 'What, then, is to be done for her?' And Gehazi answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' And he said, 'Call her.' "And when he had called her, she stood in the doorway and he said, 'At this season about this time next year, you shall embrace a son.' And she said,*

'No, my Lord. O man of God, do not lie to your servant.'" Don't lie to me! "But the woman conceived. And she bore a son about that time the following spring as Elisha had said to her." Amen.

About the Prophet

So that's what scripture the Lord gave me. And as I was reading it, I was getting all into it. I saw the conflict. There's this conflict that this holy man is coming, Elisha. Now Elisha used to follow... He was the servant of the prophet Elijah, who was a great prophet who was carried off in a chariot of fire to heaven. And Elisha asked Elijah for a double portion, and that's what he got. So, he was a great man, a great prophet, performing miracles, no doubt. And there was no place for him when he came to Shunem. And then the Shunamite woman just began to feed him.

About the Shunamite Woman

So, I went back through the text and I saw that the Shunamite woman was a wealthy woman. The Message Bible calls her a "notable" woman, but the text gives her no real importance. It simply talks about what she did.

In verse eight it says, *"As he passed that way where she lived, he would turn in and eat food."* But how did she know? How did she know? She made this declaration, *"Behold, he is a holy man."* Maybe because of the miracles that he had done, maybe because of in his presence, she felt the anointing and she knew that it was something different than what she had experienced before.

So, she fed him, and she said to her husband... I noticed that she didn't ask, okay? She was a wealthy woman, but I felt like she took charge of her house, because she didn't say, "Husband, please." She said, *"Let us make a small room with walls."* That's right. This is what we gotta do. She took charge. "We're going to make a small room with walls and put there for him a bed, a table, chair, and a lamp so whenever he comes to us, he can go there."

What the Holy Spirit Said To Me About This Passage

And as I was consulting the Holy Spirit, He said this to me. "The who?"

I said, "Well, who?" I said, "What do you mean, but who?"

He said, "Who was he?"

I said, "Well yeah, he's a man of God."

He said, "No. She was making room for God. She made room for God, the anointing, and his Spirit."

I said, "Okay, Lord, that's powerful. I like that." She simply made a room for God and the anointing, a place where the Holy One could dwell. And the Holy Spirit said... Isn't that good? "Where the Holy Spirit could dwell." So that caught my attention.

And then the Holy Spirit said, "That's how some of My people do." And He said, "No, go back. Go back to this top verse. *'When he passed by and he would turn in and he would eat food,'*" He said, "So most of My people allow Me to visit."

I said, "Visit?"

He said, "Yeah, I visit. I pass by. And I give them gifts." He said, "They only allow Me to visit."

I was like, "Oh, that doesn't feel good." I said, "Well, Lord, you know," I said, "Well we have you, Holy Spirit!" I said, "We have you as a Teacher, as a Comforter, You make intercession for us."

And the Holy Spirit says, "But that's not enough. There's more."

I said, "Okay."

So, as He was talking to me, He said, "God did this. He redeemed you with Jesus dying and how He rose again. And with all this just to get back to the place in the garden where God created us so we could all commune together."

I said, "Okay."

He said, "That was His purpose. He put his love on us, He redeemed us, all for the purpose... He drew us by his love so that we would spend time with Him." He created us for this purpose, for his purpose.

So, then the Holy Spirit said to me, He said, "Now God is calling."

I said, "Okay."

He said, "He's calling." He said, "He's constantly calling us to Himself, longing for our presence. He wants to make Himself known to us." And we have constant, consistent distractions. Some of us have children, family, work, work, more work. We have bills. We have all of these things that are constantly in the way of God calling us to Himself. Sometimes we wake up.

I know the Lord will wake me up at 3 o'clock in the morning, I'll be like, "Oh, well maybe I have to go to the restroom." And then you go back to sleep. But He's calling us. He's a gentleman. He's nudging you.

I remember my grandmother used to say, said, "You know when I wake up like that, I just fall flat on my knees." And I used to see her do it. You could not go in her room or speak to her when she was on her knees. She rolled out of bed on her knees. And that was the place. That's where it was at. And I said, "That's got to be something significant about that." I really praise God for that.

Sometimes, well, my generation, we wake up in the morning, we look at our phones: Facebook, Twitter, who's looking at my pictures, Instagram. You know we have all these distractions. And the enemy has got us on lock. He's got us full of distractions, full of things that you know we shouldn't be doing and seeking God first. So many things to do, so little time. But what about God's time? We seem to call Him whenever we need Him. He's our 911 call. He's on lock for 911. Emergency? Call on Jesus. You say, "I talk to the Lord. You know, we have these daily conversations." But do you really? Are you getting that quality time in? Ask your neighbor. Are you talking to the Lord? Seriously. Ask your neighbor. Are you talking to the Lord? Are you having conversations? Yeah? Are you spending time with Him? Now, I want you tell your neighbor like this: "It's time... "

(Congregation) It's time.

"To make room."

(Congregation) To make room.

(Congregation) Alleluia. [crosstalk]

Making Room for God

It's time to make real room for the Lord. Have you... Anybody in here ever been in love? Still in love? I mean, I hope so. I'm not going to be all in your business. Hey! Definitely in love.

You know how the first time you're in love you get that rush? It's exciting, it's new, and you have all these plans and dreams and you're like, "And I want to go here with you, and oh we can go to this restaurant, and oh I want to take you to see this movie!" And you're hoping that the person that you're in love with loves you the same and wants to do the same things with you.

Well sometimes in those scenarios, we get hurt because the other person doesn't love us, doesn't reciprocate the same love that we're doting on them. I was one of those people. I'm not ashamed to say I was one of those people. I got my heart broken really badly. And I just knew, this guy was my husband. And I was like, "Oh, yeah, you know. He goes to church, his parents are in the Word, and all this is great and..." And he wasn't for me.

So then, by the time my husband now came, I didn't recognize it. I didn't understand his love for me. I didn't even understand how he was pursuing me so hard. It was really foreign to me. I'd be like "Ugh, stop. Enough. That's a lot." I couldn't take it, because he was pursuing me so hard, he was after me from day one. I walked in the door and he's like, "That's my wife." And I laughed. I was like, "Oh, that's funny. Okay." That's what I did to him. But he pursued me the way God pursues us. He was a gentleman. He called me all the time. So much did he call the house, my mom was like, "Look. She's not here."

If I thought about something I wanted, he would go out and get it. And I was like, "Okay. He's just... He's okay. He's nice." Because I was heartbroken. And there was a glitch there.

And sometimes I believe us receiving God's love gets a little hard because of the things of the world, because of the things that we've received in the world and experienced. You get your heart broken or somebody said something to you, or somebody gave you a negative word in church, and it hurt you. Or you're just like, "I don't want to believe like that. I don't want to feel like that. That's ugly." And so, you reject it. So, when somebody gets ready to tell you about God's love or, you know, Pastor Arland texts you like every week. You're like, "Oh my God, here he comes. Jesus." But he's doing it because God is on him to call you, because God is pursuing you through him.

And we're just, "Okay, yeah. Okay Lord. You know, love you. Yeah, okay, that's good." You know? And we don't really understand what He's trying to do, how big His love is, how insurmountable His love is on us. Even the purpose of it. In our everyday lives, I think we don't give it enough regard. We kind of just... "Okay, He loves me. Oh, I spent my time with the Lord. I spent my time with the Word." And he's like, "But wait!" You know? "There's more! There're some things I want to say to you. There're some things I need to implant in you. You don't even know."

God sees us like my new nephew, he's a year. You know, and he's starting to walk. And God's like, "I want to talk to you so you can see that you can't walk over there! You're going to fall. You're going to trip." But if we are not in tune with him, if we have not made room for him, we can't hear it. We miss Him. We miss Him. We're like, "Lord, how did that happen?" He's like, "Well, if you had made room for Me when I nudged you at three o'clock in the morning, then you would have known to get on your face and pray for your child who was getting ready to fall."

He wants to tell us those things. He doesn't want an emergency to pop up and child calls and said, "Oh my God and this happened!" If you had gotten on your face when God nudged you at three o'clock in the morning, you might not have even got a call. Did you ever say, "Oh you know what, I almost got into an accident, but something happened."? And you're like, "Okay. Thank you, Father." That was it.

When God Arouses You, Get Up and Pray

I remember I think I was 19 or 20 and my parents, their car was in the shop and they took my car and I was... What was I doing? Lion King. And the week before or a couple nights before, I had this dream. And my mom used to say, "When you get dreams that shake you, when God gives you... Get up and pray."

So, my dream was that my parents were in an accident, and the car was completely smashed, and they were dead. I got a call, and I had to go and view the body. And it was all this stuff. So, I got up, and I was just praying. I think I prayed for like an hour. And I didn't even think about it. Next week, they totaled my car. Some guy hit them. My parents kept looking at the car and they kept saying, "How did we get out? How?" They had no idea how they got out. And that was just a testimony to, okay, Lord. Every time You nudge me, I'm going to get up.

As a matter of fact, you need to get up earlier just to make room for Him. I don't care if it's

30 minutes earlier than your regular prayer time. Get up early. Get up early and just worship Him. If you don't know what to say, just speak in tongues. Start declaring the Word. Open the Word, and start... I don't care if it's Psalm 20. The Lord hears you in the day of trouble, the name of the God of the Jacob defend thee. Lord, send me help from the sanctuary and strengthen thee out of Zion and put your name in it. Put your children's name in it. Read the words of the Lord. Read Psalm 1: *"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly nor standeth in the way of sinners."* Put your name in it. It will do something to your spirit. You'll start communing with God as we should.

The First Way to Make Room for God

The first way He gave to make room for us was in Proverbs, chapter three, verses 5 and 6. Pastor Arland, can you read that for me? Proverbs 3:5 and 6.

(Pastor Arland) *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your path."*

All right. So, trust, lean, not to your own understanding and all your ways, every way. O Lord, I literally was like, "Is this the right toothpaste for me? Because I want to do this." And I know this sounds ridiculous, but it was like... He'll turn to me in different things. "Melodye you need to get this. No, you're going to need that, Melodye." He's been telling me... I've had shows come up, and He's like, "You're going to need to get with this person so you can get clothes made and get this." And I was like, "Okay." And sure enough, I got all these shows back to back, and I was like, "Oh, He told me I needed to... "

But He's going to tell you if you acknowledge him. Just a simple say, "Lord, you know... "

I ask Him now a lot of things about my husband. I'm like, "Is this good? Will this be great for our relationship? Can I... " You know, because everybody's always talking about how to spice up your relationship. Okay. We've been married three years. We've been together like, what, 12, 13 years. And so, you're always trying to think of something creative to do. And the Lord gave me these little... I was like, "Oh, this is expensive, but I want to do this!" And the Lord... I went to Gold Star, of all things. I never really went. But I went to Gold Star and I found these great movies. So, we're going to go see Casablanca. You know? And it's great. We're going to Griffith Park. Different little things. And the Holy Spirit led me to it. I didn't have to call a bunch of my girlfriends. And I know it sounds so simple and trivial, but that's how He wants to lead us. God wants us to make room so He can commune with us.

The Second Way to Make Room for God

The second way, which is one of my favorite ways, I do it all the time, of making room for the Lord is, as David says it best in Psalm 100. Pastor Arland, do you mind reading the first four verses of Psalm 100, please?

(Pastor Arland) *Make a joyful shout to the Lord, all you lands. Serve the Lord with gladness. Come before his presence with singing. Know that the Lord is God. It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves. We are His people and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him and bless His name.*

Amen. That's it! And we do this every Sunday. But this is how we enter in. We should enter in every morning, you know, put some praise music on, put something that makes you happy.

Sometimes we used to play 'Happy' [she is referencing the song *Happy*, which was released by Pharrell Williams in 2013 on his album also titled *Happy*]. You know, but we just worship the Lord singing 'Happy' because God told me, He said, "Blessed is the man." He said, "Happy, blessed, happy is the man." I said, "Oh, okay! I'm going to use the 'Happy' song." That's every time I use the 'Happy' song, I'm like, God has blessed me. I'm so happy.

The reason we end up with the spirit of depression and things like anxiety and fear is because of the things that we make room for when we don't make room for God. When you make room for God and give Him space, then there's no room for the other things. There's no room for fear. There's no room for depression.

Going back to the text, the Shunamite woman wanted more than just a visitation from the holy one. She had money, a good husband, servants, and all she could want. And the holy one is who she needed to commune with. She heard of the miracles he performed, and she said she knew he was a holy man. And so, she built a room on top of her house. Now people in those days, you couldn't build a room on top of your house unless you had money. And I even read... I was reading this history book where it said David, he made an upper chamber, you call them upper room, in the temple. And it was for worship. I thought that was pretty cool. He made an upper room.

But she made room and with everything that he needed to be comfortable so that he would stay.

Let's Go Over It Again

So, let's go over it again. How do we make room?

One: acknowledge God in all your ways. Trust Him.

Number two: spend time with Him, making room for Him in worship and prayer.

Where is the Evidence of us Making Room?

There's a lot going on in our society. I see a lot of my friends leaving churches, going to places where they think are filled with love. "They love me without condition." Oh, you know, there's all these wonderful things happening because what's missing is we haven't made room for God, so that we walk in His divine order, so that people are not just saved, but they're healed. We don't have signs, wonders. When it says, "These are the signs that follow them that believe," we're supposed to be walking out of here with miracles. And people are supposed to be walking out of here healed of heart murmurs, healed of bipolar disease. They are supposed to be walking out. We are supposed to... signs and wonders following. That is the evidence that God is here. That's the evidence that His presence; that's the evidence that we know Him.

We laugh about that all the time. My mother and I say, "Evidence? Where is your evidence?"

Where is your evidence?" We need evidence that we know God! We're trying to win people and minister. What can they say if a man comes in here blind, and he walks out of here seeing? This whole place would be on fire.

(Congregation) Amen.

And we should be looking for it and expecting it. But you can't look for it, expect it, if you are not making room for Him.

You know, that Scripture where it says, "Enlarge my territory," I think part of that is him making room for God as well. God wants to enlarge us, enlarge our borders. But we have to make room for Him first.

Genuine Praise or Pouty Praise?

There's a Scripture that says, *"He inhabits the praises of his people,"* Psalms 22 and 3. And it also says... I believe that praise has to be done in all sincerity, with your whole heart because here's another thing. We can praise and worship, but sometimes we come with... Some people come with the pouty praise. "Hallelujah. Well thank you. Okay. Are they done?" People kind of closing their eyes like, "Are they done? All right." And some people come... They don't come expecting. You have to engage.

And it doesn't mean that you have to shout. You don't even have to lift your hands. But as long as you're engaging and genuinely. Some people just want to be cool. I realize. I was talking to mom, I said, "The Holy Spirit said to me about Cain and Abel." And I said, "Wow." I said, "I really got it. For all my life when I was a kid, I was like... I thought he gave a good offering! Why didn't God receive Cain's offering?" And the Holy Spirit, "Because his spirit! He didn't do it in honor to God. It was like, 'Okay, this offering, you got it? I did what I'm supposed to do. I'm doing my time. Okay cool.'" And he just... It wasn't received. And he didn't get it. And I was like, "Okay, Lord, I get it now. I get how I'm supposed to engage."

So, I got this Scripture. Turn with me one more time, John, chapter four. And we're going to go to verse 21. So, I'm going to read out of the Message Bible. Yes, John 4, verse 21, 4 and 21.

Okay, in the Message Bible, it says... So, this is Jesus talking to the Samaritan woman, the woman at the well. He says, *"Believe me, woman, the time is coming when you Samaritans will worship the Father neither here at this mountain nor here in Jerusalem. You worship guessing in the dark, and I say worshiping not knowing who God really is."* You know, hands up, hands down, something to do. Completely clueless.

And He said, "But we Jews worship in the clear light of day." And the Holy Spirit said, "In true reverence to who God is," and the rest of the scripture says, "God's way of salvation is made available through the Jews, but the time is coming. It has, in fact, come, when what you're called will not matter and where you go to worship will not matter. But it's who you are and the way that you live that count before God." Your worship must engage your spirit in the pursuit of truth. That's the kind of people the Father is looking for. Those who are

simply and honestly themselves before Him in their worship. God is sheer being itself: spirit. And those who worship Him must do it out of their very being, their spirits, in their true selves, in adoration.

That is what He's calling for. If we begin to worship, enter in, just in true worship and engage, He will make His presence known. "Inhabits the praises of His people." Let me go back. I have always been a worshiper, I think, I would say since birth. I love, love church. I loved hearing people sing and praise to God. I just knew that's what I'm supposed to do. As a baby, I sat in the front rows, like "Yeah, we're supposed to praise the Lord." And that's all I knew. You know I got up with my grandmother, I said my grandmother, she got on her knees every morning. And I went and opened the church with her. It was me and my grandmother and my grandfather. And I thought she was magnificent, because she got up. And she had this booming voice, like Uncle Joseph and my mom. So, her voice would just boom.

And she would sing, "There's power, power, wonder-working power in the blood." And I just thought Heaven had opened up. I thought that was amazing.

So, when I was seven years old and I saw my friends tarrying and wanting the Holy Ghost, I felt this yearning. And I was like, I want that. But I made up my mind, I said, "But I'm not going to tarry for an hour. I want the Holy Ghost, and I want it now." I was like, "I want it. I'm not going to stand up there for two or three hours. Nobody's going to take me in the back. I'm not going to spit on myself. I'm just, I want the Holy Ghost. That's it."

So, one of my aunts brought me up, and I got it, immediately. And this was one of the best things to ever happen to me. But also, what my mother and my grandmother taught me was getting up early, worshiping the Lord. I didn't even realize that they were teaching me to make room for the Holy Ghost, that they were teaching me to make room for God. I didn't know why the Lord would give me these things. I would pray and make room for Him and He would tell me these things as I was going along. He would tell me how to pray when I was in high school. Because I was the nerd, people would always want to bully me, trying to fight me. Oh my God, it was crazy.

So, I said, well, I didn't know how to pray, so God's going to have to show me how to pray so I can be fine when I go to school. So, He'd give me these things to pray. And I'd go to school and I'd be like, "It's all good," you know? It really worked, because I made room for Him. And that is the place where God meets you.

When you pray in all sincerity and you begin to worship Him in the place where you're vulnerable, the place where I'm weak and He's my strength, where His love fully covers me, where He demolishes every insecurity, all pain. The scripture says God is sheer being Himself, spirit, and those who worship Him must do it out of their spirits, their true selves, in adoration. And this is the place where He inhabits. He inhabits the praises of His people. If you believed on Him and you've accepted Him, you are His people.

So, inhabit means to make your home. When I made my home with my husband, I brought

everything. I didn't leave nothing. I might have left something. No, I don't think I left anything. I think we moved everything in my husband's house. But that's how God is. He brings everything with Him. In the midst of praise, He brings... "I am that I am." He brings that he is Jehovah Rapha. He brings that He is you... He brings everything that you need, making His home. Imagine in the middle of your praise, He is unpacking. He sits down and unpacks, is like, "Okay I'm here. What do you want? You called me. I'm here."

(Congregant) Yes!

What do you need?

(Congregant) Yeah!

You're worshiping me, you're praising, you're communing with me, and He's like, "Let's have this conversation. What is it? Let me tell you who you are." Inhabiting the praises of His people, that is so important. It's too late to miss it. There're too many things happening. There're too many things going on. You cannot miss it. You've got to make time. You have to make room. All of those things. You know, you're not too old. There are things that God wants to... People in here who are retired; God still has something for you to do.

(Congregant) Oh yes!

But you're going to miss it if you don't make room. You're going to miss Him unpacking in your situation. You want Him to do something, and He's like... You're like, "Why is this going on?" He's like, "Okay, if you make room, I'm going to tell you. Let me come in. Make a space for Me."

I remember when we were going to buy this house, that's exactly what the Lord had been telling me. He said, "Where's My room? Where's My space?" I was like, "Oh? You want a room, Lord? Okay? We'll just have to make some space for You." But it's so amazing. He wants all of us. He wants everything that you are. He created you. But He knows what your weaknesses are for. He knows... He's like, "Ah, I can use that. If you abide in Me, I can use that."

You don't even know. You think, oh, I have this friend who kind of walks with this limp, but he doesn't know. Everybody thinks that it's completely cool. He thinks it's weird, and I'm like, "You don't know everybody thinks it's cool." God can use those things, those things that you... "Oh, yeah, I've been abused." Well God wants to heal you so you can minister that to someone else who needs it.

(Congregant) Amen.

Everything that you have. I want you to look at your hands. Everything that you are, that He's created you to be, He wants to put to use. So, make room. Make room. Make room.