

"You give them something to eat." - Luke 9:13

HOWDOES GODSOLVE OUR PROBLEMS?

Introduction

"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the Lord. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts." (ls 55:8-9)

General Observations

- Problems are inevitable
- Growth often occurs through problems
- God's solutions are commonly unconventional

1. Enters the Problem with you

Three Holy Youth



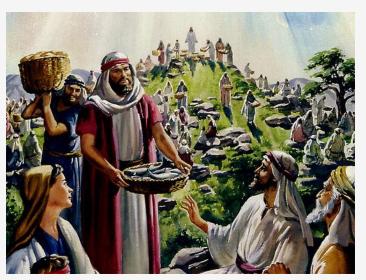
2. Opens our eyes

- Elisha and his servant
- So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." (2 Kings 6:16)
- Sometimes our problems are perceived problems but in reality, they are not.



3. Sends a messenger

• Feeding the 5000

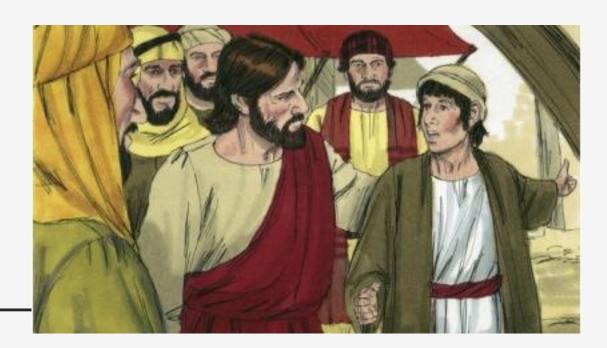


• Elisha and the Widow's Oil



4. Waits

- Lazarus
- "Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So, when He heard that he was sick, He stayed two more days in the place where He was." (Jn 11:5-6)



5. Gives rest

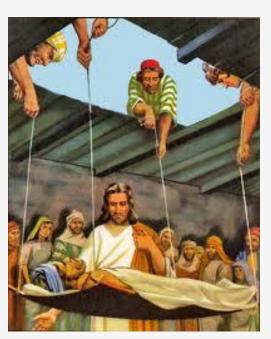
- "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matt 11:28)
- Ex: Sinful woman at Simon the Pharisee's house
- Ex: Hannah
- "So the woman went her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad." (1 Sam 1:18)



Miraculous Intervention

- The miracle is the exception, not the rule
- We cannot limit how God works in our life







How to take full advantage of God's help?

- Involve God in your problem from the beginning
- 2. Remember that you are not alone in your problems
- "The Lord shall hear you in the day of your trouble." (Ps. 19:1 LXX)
- "He is the hope of those who have no hope, and the helper of those who have no helper; the comfort of the fainthearted; the harbor of those in the storm." (Litany of the Sick, St. Basil Liturgy)

How to take full advantage of God's help?

Do
not be afraid;
do not be
discouraged, for
the Lord your
God will be
with you
joshua 1-9

- 3. Be courageous despite the challenges
- "No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you. Be strong and of good courage..." (Jos. 1:5-6)

Summary

How does God solve our problems?

- Enters into in the problem with you
- 2. Opens your eyes
- 3. Sends a messenger
- 4. Waits
- 5. Gives rest
- 6. Miraculous intervention

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