



## jesUS: God's Love Compels US How Cracked Pots Are Valuable Vessels Pastor Ryan Bunbury June 18, 2023

**SERIES TEXT:** This is how we know what love is: JesUS Christ laid down his life for US. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. 1 John 3:16 NIV

**SERIES BIG IDEA:** God's love compels US. Since God so loved US, we also ought to love one another.

God loves using cracked pots!

### HOW CRACKED POTS ARE VALUABLE VESSELS

#### I. REMEMBER, YOU ARE LOVED & YOU ARE USEFUL

*Judges 6:11-27 NIV:*

11) The angel of the Lord came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, where his son Gideon was threshing wheat in the winepress to keep it from the Midianites.

12) When the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon, he said, "THE LORD IS WITH YOU, MIGHTY WARRIOR."

13) "But sir," Gideon replied, "if the Lord is with us, *why* has all this happened to us? Where are all his wonders that our fathers told us about when they said, 'Did not the Lord bring us up out of Egypt?' But now the Lord has abandoned us and put us into the hand of Midian."

#### II. ADMIT YOUR WEAKNESS, ACKNOWLEDGE THE LORD'S STRENGTH

14) The Lord turned to him and said, "GO IN THE STRENGTH YOU HAVE and save Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I not sending you?"

15) "But Lord," Gideon asked, "*how* can I save Israel? My clan is the **weakest** in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family."

16) The Lord answered, "**I will be with you, and you will strike down all the Midianites *together*.**"

17) Gideon replied, "If now I have found favor in your eyes, **give me a sign that it is really you talking to me.**

18) Please do not go away until I come back and bring my offering and set it before you." And the Lord said, "I will wait until you return."

19) Gideon went in, prepared a young goat, and from the ephah of flour he made bread without yeast. Putting the meat in a basket and its broth in a pot, he brought them out and offered them to him under the oak.

20) The angel of God said to him, "Take the meat and unleavened bread, place them **on this rock**, and pour out the broth." And Gideon did so.



21) With the tip of the staff that was in his hand, the angel of the Lord touched the meat and the unleavened bread. **Fire flared from the rock**, consuming the meat and the bread. And the angel of the Lord disappeared.

22) When **Gideon realized** that it was the angel of the Lord, he exclaimed, "Ah, Sovereign Lord! I have seen the angel of the Lord face to face!"

23) But the Lord said to him, "**Peace. Do not be afraid. You are not going to die.**"

24) So Gideon built an altar to the Lord there and called it **The Lord is Peace. To this day it stands** in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

### III. DO IT AFRAID

25) That same night the Lord said to him, "Take the second bull from your father's herd, the one seven years old. Tear down your father's altar to Baal and cut down the Asherah pole beside it.

26) Then build a proper kind of altar to the Lord your God on the top of this height. Using the wood of the Asherah pole that you cut down, offer the second bull as a burnt offering."

27) So GIDEON took ten of his servants and did as the Lord told him. But because he was AFRAID of his family and the men of the town, he DID IT at night rather than in the daytime.

*If I'm most honest, a challenge I'm facing is \_\_\_\_\_.*

### Faith 101: Do it afraid!

#### SALVATION PRAYER:

*Dear Jesus, I repent of my sin. Please be my Savior and Lord. In Jesus' Name, Amen*



Scan - Your Opinion  
Matters