

John 20:21 AMP – *Then Jesus said to them again, Peace to you! Just as the Father has sent Me forth, so I am sending you.*

Matthew 28:19 NIV – (19) *Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, (20) and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*

4. Vessels of Honor are Carriers

2 Corinthians 4:7 NIV – *But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.*

- Our value as God's jars, vessels, pots lies in the incomparable beauty and splendor of what we hold, not in our shape or color.
- You are carriers of the anointing of God
- You are carriers of the power of God
- You are carriers of the rivers of life
- You are carriers of the bread of life
- You are carriers of the word of truth
- You are carriers of His presence and glory
- The more transparent you become the more beauty of Christ will be seen.
- God has chosen to work His perfection through imperfection.

I Corinthians 3:9 AMP – *For we are fellow workmen (joint promoters, laborers together) with and for God."*

Mark 16:19-29 AMP – (19) *So then the Lord Jesus, after He had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and He sat down at the right hand of God. (20) And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord kept working with them and confirming the message by the attesting signs and miracles that closely accompanied it."*

THE POTTER'S WHEEL

Part 6 – The Product

Sunday May 16, 2004 - Debby Baril

REVIEW

THE GLAZING OF THE CLAY

- The potter will put a glaze on the pot, to bring out its beauty, beginning from the inside, and working His way out.
- The glaze is not what waterproofs the pot – it's the fire and temperature the pot endures

THE SECOND FIRE

A. Rejection Test

- People will reject you and your pursuit of God so that they can justify their own complacency.
- You may be rejected for the call on your life or the visions and dreams you have.

B. Betrayal Test

- The people you think you can count on suddenly turn on you.
- We must recognize the real betrayer and allow God to comfort us and bring us through...making us stronger and more like Christ.

C. Forgiveness Test

Everybody's Normal Till You Get to Know Them
by John Ortberg (Chapter 8)

- Forgiving is not excusing.
- Forgiving is not forgetting
- Forgiving is not reconciling
- Forgiveness gives up the quest to get even.
- Forgiveness involves a new way of seeing and feeling.
- Forgiveness involves wishing the other person well.

D. Servant Test

- When we begin to serve, we are actually taking ownership – we are saying, I belong and I'm part of the solution. We are building community.

THE PRODUCT

Jeremiah 18:1-6 NIV – (1) *This is the word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord. (2) Go down to the potter's house, and there I will give you my message. (3) So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel. (4) But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him. (5) Then the word of the Lord came to me: (6) O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter does? Declares the Lord. Like clay in the hand of the potter, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel.*

- He has taken us, marred and flawed and transformed us into noble vessels to carry His glory.
- He can use every one of our flaws and weaknesses to bring forth His beauty and strength.

VESSELS OF HONOR

2 Timothy 2:20-21 AMP – (20) *But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also utensils of wood and earthenware, and some for honorable and noble use and some for menial and ignoble use. (21) So whoever cleanses himself from what is ignoble and unclean, who separates himself from contact with contaminating and corrupting influences will then himself be a vessel set apart and useful for honorable and noble purposes, consecrated and profitable to the Master, fit and ready for any good work.*

1. Vessels of Honor are Christ-Centered

- v. 21 “...who separates himself from contact with contaminating and corrupting influences...”
- When you gave your life to Christ you became Christ-centered.
 - You put aside the attractions of the world and its influences to become a follower of Christ.
 - You became aligned with the purposes and Word of Christ.

2. Vessels of Honor are Consecrated

v. 21 “...a vessel set apart and useful for honorable and noble purposes...”

Exodus 30:29 AMP – *You shall sanctify (separate) them, [the vessels and utensils used in the Temple], that they may be most holy; whoever and whatever touches them must be holy (set apart for God).*

- Any vessel that God uses is to be set apart and considered holy to God.
- Holiness: being so drawn by the Presence of God that nothing in this world can pull at the affections of your heart.
- Being consecrated is the pursuit to stay satisfied with God.

Psalms 16:11 AMP – *You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy, at Your right hand there are pleasures forevermore.*

- A list of rules will not curb the desire for pleasure so often found in sin.
- Finding perfect and pure pleasure in God's presence cannot be compared with anything that the world has to offer.
- Passion for Jesus breaks the power of sin.

3. Vessels of Honor are Commissioned

v. 21 “useful for honorable and noble purposes, consecrated and profitable to the Master, fit and ready for any good work.”

- People need to be needed. We need to feel useful.
- God stands ready to commission us to do His good work; to do great works in His name.

John 14:12 AMP – *I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, if anyone steadfastly believes in Me, he will himself be able to do the things that I do; and he will do even grater things than these, because I go to the Father.*