

Devotion 11
More Than Enough

Wednesday, Week 2

And the people continued to bring freewill offerings morning after morning. So all the skilled craftsmen who were doing all the work on the sanctuary left their work and said to Moses, "The people are bringing more than enough for doing the work the Lord commanded to be done."

. . . And so the people were restrained from bringing more, because what they already had was more than enough to do all the work. (Exodus 36:3b-7)

"Make me, Lord, a dreamer for Your kingdom. Plant in my heart heavenly desires. Grant faith that can say, 'impossibilities shall be!' and vision lest a world should perish, not knowing Thee." (From "Make Me, Lord, A Dreamer," by Chris Bowater.)

Read the text from Exodus one more time. I love this picture! God's people (each of them moved by a willing heart) gave so generously that they had "to be restrained" from giving more! Moses even had to issue an order! "No one is to bring anything more." "We don't want any more gold, silver, bronze, olive oil, or whatever!" When I read this text, I always get a picture in my mind of Moses out in front of the people with his arms out as if he is stopping a stampede saying, "No more. Take it back. No more." And then, I immediately begin to wonder—to dream, really, "Could this happen today? Could God do it again in His people? Could He empower His people to all together come forth with such a love offering of time, abilities, and money, that there would be an over-abundance to accomplish all the ministry tasks before us? Is God capable of this . . . with us . . . with you . . . with me?"

What do you think?

God works "impossibilities" through His giving. "*For God so loved the world, that he GAVE his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him, shall not perish but have eternal life*" (John 3:16). Through the giving of Jesus—an offering given out of pure love—our loving God worked the "impossibility" of saving us, giving us eternal life through faith in Jesus. If He can do this, working life where there was only death, surely He can and will work just such another "impossibility," working such stewardship hearts in us that together we give to Him all that is needed—and more, an overabundance—for the work of His kingdom in this place.

The ministry and the challenge are right before us. Even in the midst of a faltering economy right now, our community is projected to grow in the coming years. Of the people in our community now and in the projected future, many do not and will not have a faith home. The mission is right in front of us! Just look at our Badger Ranch neighborhood and surrounding neighborhoods! Make me, Lord, a dreamer for Your kingdom! And empower me—and all of us together—to act accordingly!

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, You know how easily I become "earthbound," limiting any possibilities I see for Your kingdom. Lord, make me instead a dreamer for Your kingdom. Help us all together see the vision of You having Your way with each one of us in our lives of stewardship and empower us to dream what this will mean for Your kingdom work in this place. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen!