

**MISSIONS  
FUNDRAISER**

**Thanks to all who donated items!**  
Thanks to all our volunteers who helped with set-up, pick-ups, sales, and clean-up!



**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY...**

**We celebrate all our ladies—who teach, nurture, and inspire!**

*Moms... Moments... Memories...*

This Mother's Day we plan to honor mothers, grandmothers, mothers-in-law, and those who are like mothers by highlighting some of the special memories they helped create. Cards are available to record these "memories" if you would like to share the experience. These will be posted on our bulletin board. Please see Emma to get your card!



**Ladies' BROWN BAG LUNCH/TEACHING**

Ladies—get ready for this incredible teaching/fellowship opportunity on **Sunday, June 7, 2015 at Phylis' home**. Mark your calendars!  
**Bring your brown bag lunch—Phylis will have coffee and tea for everyone.**  
**Come and enjoy one of the great teachings from the Women's Conference.**



SAVE THE DATE

Reinhard Bonnke  
**GOSPEL CRUSADE**

BRINGING GOOD NEWS TO AMERICA

Mark your calendars for this life-giving event!

**ALLSTATE ARENA/CHICAGO  
JUNE 26, 27 & 28, 7PM**

Each week everyone will be asked to fill out a Connection Card in order to "MEASURE" our church in five key areas. There will be a summary report each week in the bulletin that identifies those five key metrics.

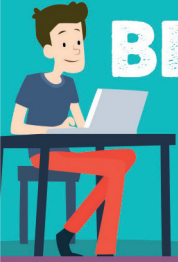
**Please turn in your card each week. Members, leaders and guests will be asked to turn these in.**



CONNECTION CARD

# DON'T BELIEVE IT!

MAY  
TEACHING SERIES



## Dumb Things that Smart People Believe

- May 3 - God Has a Blueprint for My Life
- May 10 - Mother's Day
- May 17 - Guest Speaker
- May 24 - Faith Can Fix Anything
- May 31 - Everything Happens for a Reason

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Breanna V.	▶ Health Issues
Lily M.	▶ Dementia
Anabelle G.	▶ Lung Cancer
Andrew H.	▶ Health Issues
Noe F.	▶ Health Issues
Linda L.	▶ Health Issues
Elizabeth S.	▶ Health Issues
Kenny D.	▶ Skull Fracture
Trevor W.	▶ Deployed to Afghanistan
Paul S. III	▶ Complete Healing
Peggy K.	▶ Health Issues
Danny L.	▶ Awaiting Peace Corps Assignment
Ralph H.	▶ Fluid in the brain
Moe M.	▶ Lung Cancer
Ruth S.	▶ Undiagnosed Health Issues
Mark M.	▶ Cardiac Issues
Samuel L.	▶ Blood Transfusion
Jim B.	▶ Eye Problems

### THE NEPAL EARTHQUAKE...

The Nepal earthquake has been tragic and overwhelming. Countless lives have been lost, and thousands of families have been displaced. **Stan Scism**, a missionary friend, reports these known needs.

1. Widow, with a family of four needs shelter and support.
2. A pastor, whose home was destroyed, now living in a tent.

WE WANT TO SHOW SOME LOVE - THIS WEEK PREPARE TO GIVE IN THE OFFERING FOR NEPAL RELIEF.

05/03/15

METRICS  
THAT MATTER

36

ATTENDANCE

\$3,119.25

GIVING

1

GUESTS

10

VOLUNTEERS

0

DECISIONS FOR CHRIST



# MOTHER'S DAY

## The Widow of Zarephath

*I Empty My Present to Fill My Future*

<sup>14</sup> For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: "The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the Lord sends rain on the land."<sup>15</sup> She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. *1 Kings 17:14-15*

### THE STORY LINE

- ✿ Elijah was being fed by ravens at the brook, Cherith.
- ✿ When the brook dried up and the ravens failed to show, God gave him a new instruction to go to Zarephath, a small village in Zidon.
- ✿ There, a widow would receive an instruction to provide food for them.
- ✿ When he arrived at the widow's, the scene was dismal and tragic. She was gathering wood for a last meal. Her son lay emaciated on his deathbed in her little house.

### A PICTURE OF HER FUTURE

- ✿ Her supply had run out. She had no faith for survival.
- ✿ The instructions of the man of God were outrageous: "Take one of those biscuits and give it to me."
- ✿ Elijah's instructions are life-giving. His instructions are seeds. He was sowing them toward the widow. "Would you go get some water for me? While you're at it, would you bring me a meal?"
- ✿ The widow replied: "I can't do that. I don't have enough. Just enough for me and my son. Elijah explained patiently, "I understand that you're wise to take care of your son, but first..."
- ✿ He suddenly gave her a miracle reason for sowing. He showed her a picture of a future—something she hadn't noticed. He revealed to her that something she already had in her possession was the key to getting into her future. He gave her a picture of the potential supply—the harvest!

“This is the word of the God of Israel; ‘the jar of flour will not run out and the bottle of oil will not become empty before God sends rain on the land and ends this drought.’”

## THE KEY IDEA:

When you empty your present,  
God promises to fill your future!

<sup>6-7</sup> Remember: A stingy planter gets a stingy crop; a lavish planter gets a lavish crop. I want each of you to take plenty of time to think it over, and make up your own mind what you will give. That will protect you against sob stories and arm-twisting. God loves it when the giver delights in the giving. *2 Corinthians 9:6-7*

## THE SMALL BISCUIT

The principle of beginning is powerful. Every long journey starts with the first step. You can go anywhere you want to go if you are willing to take the first step.

<sup>8-9</sup> After that, the Word of GOD came to me: “Zerubbabel started rebuilding this Temple and he will complete it. That will be your confirmation that GOD-of-the-Angel-Armies sent me to you. Does anyone dare despise this day of small beginnings? They’ll change their tune when they see Zerubbabel setting the last stone in place!” *Zechariah 4:8-9*

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

People are willing to empty their present in order to fill their future—they are willing to sow to the future! If you keep holding on to the seed today, it will never become a harvest.

 **But first...**