SERMON TITLE: “What’s Stewing in Your Pot?”

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SERMON SERIES: Christmas

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Key Bible Verses: 1 Kings 4:38-40; Luke 6:38; Philippians 4:19

SUMMARY:

What is stewing in your pot? Is there poison in your pot?

In 1 Kings 4:38-40 Elijah is just trying to meet the need – his servant is just trying to feed everybody and collects different things to put in the pot. The cook didn’t realize he put a wild gourd (a gourd (little cucumber -a bitter and poisonous powder) in the pot, which causes diarrhea and death. Someone took a bite and yelled out to Essau – “Man of God, there is poison in your pot.”

Question: What is in your pot? You may be putting or have put things in your pot that are poisonous, something “wild” What is there “of the world” that is in your pot that would cause a problem?

1-**Children of Israel living in the wild**

- Children of Israel were living in the wild – throwing in complaints, rebellion, worshiping false idols and golden calves) in the pot.

2-**Essau was short-sighted:** he traded his future for the pot of stew

3-**Prodigal Son** – traded “wild living” (foolish, extravagant) for his inheritance and was wandering – found himself hungry and about to die.

Our Father is waiting for us to come home into his Kingdom again. Thank God for his Mercy, Goodness, and Grace!

You don’t have to wander or live in the wild! What is in you grows in you and becomes life or death out of you!

Unknowingly there are things been put in the pot, like what you look at, watch, or listen to? Things which you may not realize are poisonous…

If you are putting poison (negativity, complaining - it can be small and subtle) in the pot, someone around you will take something from the pot and will say “your pot is poisoned”!

We keep avoiding the issue or we do not talk about it. That is why we need help..

Good News: 1 King 4:40

- Someone warned Essau – yelled out “Man of God….’
- Essau took action: he threw flour (representation of the Christ, of the Bread, of Word of God”
- God turns it for good!

There is an answer to the poison in the pot -it’s Christ himself!

- **Christ himself – God’s Word fills your hunger!** (John Chapter 1) – when the Word becomes “flesh”. When it speaks out of you – Christ becomes known through the fruit of your life.
- **God’s Word gives you purpose.**
  ” Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God” (Matthew 4).
  John 4:34 – “My food is to do the will of the one who sent Me and accomplish His work.”
- **God’s Word is for cleansing, forgiveness, and healing** (1 Corin 11:24). Your “pot” can be made whole and fresh through the body and blood of Christ. You can be a pot of good things for other people to partake of – the goodness of Christ coming out of you because of the goodness of Christ came into you.

Questions:

#1What are some of the ways you have been “filling your hunger” that have poisoned your “pot” – things you have been avoiding or ignoring?

#2 According to the Holy Spirit, how might you change your “pot” so that it could be a source of goodness to yourself and others?

#3 Do you remember a time in your life when someone told you there was poison in your “pot”? How did you respond?

#4 How could the Word of God help you make your “pot” “whole and fresh”?

Prayers: pray for each other – special prayer requests