
THE RE-SEASON • THE FINAL WORD

THE REPLENISHED REQUEST

*You Ask It Back.
He Fills It Back.*

*And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten... And it shall
come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh.*

JOEL 2:25, 28

Six days to close out the RE-Season.

LIFE CHURCH OF NEW JERSEY

New Life Starts Here

Request means to seek it back. Replenish means to fill it back.

Replenish comes from the Latin *plenus*, full. Re plus full. Request comes from *requaerere* — re plus *quaerere*, to seek. There is a word hiding inside it: a **quest** is a seeking.

Same prefix. Same direction. One of them is your part and the other is His. They aren't two ideas. They are two ends of one motion.

And they are both still prefixes, which is where this whole season started. RE can't stand on its own. **You aren't asking God for something new. You are asking Him for something back.**

Joel 2:25 opened this season. Joel 2:28 closes it. Same chapter.

How To Use These Six Days

Fifteen minutes a morning, and one week to finish a season.

READ IT OUT LOUD

Every day starts with Scripture printed out in full. Read it out loud before you read anything else on the page. The word does the work. The rest is commentary.

THIS ONE ENDS A SEASON

These six days close out the whole RE-Season. Pages 16 and 17 look back across all six words at once. Don't skip them when you get there.

DIGGING DEEPER IS OPTIONAL

The boxed part carries the Hebrew and Greek. Skip it on a rushed morning and come back to it on a slow one. It is there if you are hungry for it.

ASK OUT LOUD

This week is about the request. Somewhere in every day you will be asked to say something out loud. Do it. That is the whole message — the words matter.

BRING IT SUNDAY

Come with your notes already written and your request already named. This is the altar the whole season has been building toward.

Borrow not a few.

You Were Built Full

Nobody reported the theft. We were all born after it.

READ

And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

GENESIS 2:7 KJV

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin... But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you.

ROMANS 5:12 • ISAIAH 59:2 KJV

REFLECT

Read that verse slowly and you'll catch the order. God didn't form a living man and then add breath to him. The man was dust until God breathed, and the breathing is what turned him into a soul.

So the Spirit of God in a person was never an advanced blessing for mature believers. It's how we were built.

Then chapter 3 happens. Paul gives you one half of it: sin entered. Isaiah gives you the other half: your iniquities have separated. Something came in and something left, on the same day.

Nobody reported the theft, though, because every one of us was born after it. You can't miss what you never held.

That's the hard part. The emptiness never felt like a loss. It just felt like us. Some of us have called it our temperament for forty years and never once suspected it was a vacancy.

DIGGING DEEPER

neshamah (H5397) is the word for breath in Genesis 2:7. It's what God puts into a body of dust, and it's what turns dust into a soul. Proverbs 20:27 calls the neshamah of man the candle of the LORD.

eiserchomai (G1525) is the verb behind "sin entered" in Romans 5:12. It means to come in from outside. Notice what that quietly implies: sin isn't described as native to us. It's described as something that got in and displaced what was already there.

SEARCH YOUR HEART

- 1. What have you decided is simply "how you are"? Is that a trait, or is it a vacancy?
- 2. If the Spirit of God is how we were built, what have you been living without and calling normal?

TAKE IT WITH YOU

Pick one thing about yourself you quit trying to change years ago. Write it on this page. Then ask God plainly whether it's a trait or whether something was taken.

PRAY

Lord, I've been walking through an empty room my whole life and calling it the floor plan. Show me what was taken before I was old enough to know it was mine. Then come and fill it.

NOTES

Read Three More Verses

Almost everybody stops at verse 25.

READ

And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you. And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed.

JOEL 2:25-26 KJV

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions.

JOEL 2:28 KJV

REFLECT

Almost everybody stops at verse 25. Don't.

Verse 26 says they'll eat in plenty and be satisfied. That's the refilling, and it comes in the very next breath after the repayment. He doesn't settle the debt and walk away. He sets a table.

Then He says the same thing twice, in verse 26 and again in verse 27. My people shall never be ashamed. That was last week's word, sitting right here in this week's chapter.

And verse 28 opens with a word most of us read straight past. **Afterward.** After the restoring, after the plenty, after the shame is gone, then He pours out His Spirit.

Which tells you what all that repair work was actually for. It was never the finish line. It was God clearing a place to pour.

DIGGING DEEPER

shalam (H7999) is the verb behind “I will restore.” It means to make whole, to repay in full, to settle up, and it shares a root with *shalom*. This isn’t God feeling bad about your years. It’s an account being closed.

shaphak (H8210) is “pour out.” Scripture uses it of pouring out blood, water and wrath. It’s a word about volume, not measurement. There is nothing careful about it.

And don’t skip the small word in verse 28. *Afterward*. The order isn’t something a preacher imposed on the passage. Joel put it there.

SEARCH YOUR HEART

1. Have you stopped at verse 25 — glad for the repair, and never once asked for the filling?
2. What has God cleared out of your life this season that is still sitting empty?

TAKE IT WITH YOU

Read Joel 2:25-29 out loud once a day this week. Five verses. The whole season you have been sitting in is inside them.

PRAY

Lord, You paid back the years and You took the shame off me. I am not stopping at the repair. Bring me to the afterward.

NOTES

Borrow Not a Few

The oil did not run out. She ran out of containers.

READ

And Elisha said unto her, What shall I do for thee? tell me, what hast thou in the house? And she said, Thine handmaid hath not any thing in the house, save a pot of oil. Then he said, Go, borrow thee vessels abroad of all thy neighbours, even empty vessels; borrow not a few.

2 KINGS 4:2-3 KJV

And it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said unto her son, Bring me yet a vessel. And he said unto her, There is not a vessel more. And the oil stayed.

2 KINGS 4:6 KJV

REFLECT

Notice where Elisha starts. Not with what she lost. *What hast thou in the house?* She answers with the nothing — *not any thing* — and he builds the whole miracle on the two words she almost didn't bother saying. Save a pot of oil.

Then he names the one requirement, and it is a strange one. **Empty** vessels. Not good ones. Not matching ones. Empty. If God has emptied you this season, now you know why.

Borrow not a few. That is the request, and it is the only limit anywhere in this story.

Because look at verse 6. There is not a vessel more, and the oil stayed. The oil didn't run out. She ran out of containers. The pouring stopped on her end, not His.

She didn't quit receiving because heaven went dry. She quit borrowing.

DIGGING DEEPER

She is the widow of one of the sons of the prophets, so this is a ministry household in debt, with a creditor on the way to take her two boys. Under the law an insolvent debtor's children could be taken as bondservants (Leviticus 25:39-41; Nehemiah 5:5 records the same crisis).

Here is the detail that ties this week's two words together. The verb the KJV translates "borrow" in verse 3 is **sha'al** (H7592), the ordinary Hebrew word for **ASK**. "Go, ask thee vessels." The request and the refilling aren't two ideas we are setting side by side. They are one sentence in the Hebrew.

And verse 4: *shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons*. The miracle happened behind a closed door. Only what it paid for was public.

SEARCH YOUR HEART

1. When you pray, are you bringing vessels — or only describing the drought?
2. Where have you quietly stopped asking and started calling it contentment?

TAKE IT WITH YOU

Write down what you are actually asking God for this week. Be specific, and name a number if there is one. Then add one more thing to the list.

PRAY

Lord, I have been bringing a few. Make me bold enough to borrow more. Do not let the oil stop on my end.

NOTES

Ask, and Make It Known

He could have finished that sentence with anything.

READ

If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

LUKE 11:13 KJV

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

PHILIPPIANS 4:6 KJV

REFLECT

The verbs in Luke 11 are present tense. Keep asking. Keep seeking. Keep knocking. It isn't one petition filed and forgotten. It's a way of living.

And each one costs a little more than the last. Asking only takes your mouth. Seeking takes your feet. Knocking puts you on somebody's doorstep where they can see you standing there.

Then comes verse 13, and it decides the whole week. Jesus could have finished that sentence with anything. Good gifts. Bread. An answer. He says **the Holy Spirit, to them that ask him.**

Out of everything a Father could hand a child who asks, that is the one He names.

And Paul, writing from a jail cell with no release date, tells the church to let their requests be **made known**. Not felt. Not assumed. Said.

DIGGING DEEPER

aiteo (G154) is the act of asking. **aitema** (G155) is the thing asked for. Philippians 4:6 uses the second one. What you actually name is what gets filed.

deesis (G1162) is “supplication” — asking that comes up out of need. Paul puts it in the same sentence as thanksgiving, which should tell you the need isn’t a disqualification. It is the occasion.

And read the back half of John 16:24: *ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be FULL*. The Greek is **pleroo**, to fill. The asking verse ends on a filling word.

SEARCH YOUR HEART

- 1. What have you been waiting for God to notice that you have never actually said to Him?
- 2. Is your prayer mostly description, or is it petition?

TAKE IT WITH YOU

Say one request out loud today. Name it, and put thanksgiving on the end of it. Not a mood. A petition.

PRAY

Lord, I have prayed in generalities for years. Today I am naming it. And the thing I want most is the thing You named first. Give me Your Spirit.

NOTES

Three For Three

His own words took him out. His own words put him back.

READ

Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs... He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

JOHN 21:15, 17 KJV

This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me.

JOHN 21:19 KJV

REFLECT

Peter emptied himself with words. Three denials, and Matthew says that by the third one he was cursing and swearing. The same mouth that said *Thou art the Christ* said *I know not the man*.

So Jesus refills him with words. He never brings up the courtyard. He asks a question three times, and it is the kind of question you cannot answer by nodding. Peter has to open his mouth.

Three subtractions. Three additions. He doesn't act like the three never happened — He covers them, out loud, in front of the same men who heard Peter brag.

And every answer gets an assignment instead of a probation. Feed my lambs. Feed my sheep. Feed my sheep. He isn't benched. He is put back to work, on the same kind of beach.

Then Jesus hands him back the vow he broke. Peter had sworn he would go to prison and to death, and he failed it inside of a night. John 21:19 gives it back to him. He was right about where he would end up. He was only wrong about when.

DIGGING DEEPER

anthrakia (G439) is a fire of coals. It shows up exactly twice in the New Testament: John 18:18, where Peter warmed himself and denied Him, and John 21:9, on this beach. Jesus rebuilt the room.

bosko (G1006) is to feed, to graze. **poimaino** (G4165) is to tend, to shepherd — the whole work of pastoring. The KJV translates both as “feed,” but they are different words, and verse 16 is the bigger charge.

One caution. You will hear it preached that Jesus asks with *agapao* and Peter answers with *phileo*. That is what the Greek does. But John swaps his vocabulary all through this passage, and good commentators disagree about whether it carries weight. The three for three structure is plain, and nobody argues with it. Build there.

SEARCH YOUR HEART

1. What did your own mouth take from you, and how long ago was it?
2. What would it cost you to say the opposite out loud, three times, somewhere a person could hear you?

TAKE IT WITH YOU

Say it three times today, out loud, where you can hear your own voice: *Lord, You know all things. You know that I love You.* Don't hurry the third one.

PRAY

Lord, my own words took me out, and I have believed ever since that the calling went with them. Use my mouth to put me back. I love You. I love You. I love You.

NOTES

The Promise Put Back

God did not forgive him quietly in a corner.

READ

And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting... And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

ACTS 2:2-4 KJV

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

ACTS 2:38-39 KJV

REFLECT

A rushing mighty **wind**. Breath, again. The same thing God put in Adam's nostrils came back into a room, and this time it filled the whole house.

Then a man stands up and preaches Joel 2:28. *This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel.*

Don't walk past who that man is. That is Peter. Fifty days earlier his mouth had emptied him three times on a cold night. Now he is the one on his feet explaining the outpouring to a whole city.

God did not forgive him quietly in a corner. God put him in front of Jerusalem.

And the evidence was not a feeling. They were filled, and they **began to speak**. The sign that the breath was back is that it came out of their mouths.

Then Peter says the sentence this whole season has been walking toward. *The promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off.* That was never a one-day event for a hundred and twenty people in a borrowed upper room.

DIGGING DEEPER

pimplemi (G4130) is the verb in Acts 2:4, and it is aorist. A filling that happened. An event with a date on it.

pleroo (G4137) is the verb in Ephesians 5:18, and it is present passive imperative. *Be being filled*, continuously. Different word, different tense. One is the day it happened; the other is the standing command. A lot of us are living off the first and ignoring the second.

epaggelia (G1860) is “promise,” and in older usage it also carried the sense of an announcement or a summons. What they waited nine days for was not a mood. It was a commitment with a name attached.

SEARCH YOUR HEART

1. Are you living off a filling that happened once, or are you being filled?
2. Who is “afar off” in your life that this promise is also for?

TAKE IT WITH YOU

Ask Him for the filling this week, by name. Not for a feeling. For the Holy Ghost. Luke 11:13 says the Father gives Him to the ones who ask.

PRAY

Lord, what left in a garden came back in a wind. Fill this house, and fill me. I am asking, and I will keep asking until You answer.

NOTES

Six Words, One Argument

The season is finished. Read the whole arc before you answer anything on the next page.

RESTORE Joel 2:25

He paid back the years the locust ate. An account settled, not an apology offered.

REPLENISH Joel 2:26

Ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied. He refills what He emptied.

REBUILD Amos 9:11

He closed the breaches first, then raised the walls, and built it to work.

REMEMBER Mark 16:7

RE plus MEMBER. He gathered the scattered parts, and said Peter's name at a tomb.

REMOVE Zechariah 3:4

He took the garment off and set the mitre back on his head.

REQUEST Joel 2:28

He poured out His Spirit, on the ones who ask Him.

Every one of them is a prefix. Not one of them can stand alone.

What Actually Moved

Answer honestly. This is not a quiz. It is an inventory of a whole season.

- Which of the six did God actually do in you? Not which one preached best.
- Which one have you believed for somebody else and never once for yourself?
- What did He take off you that you went back and picked up again?
- What is still sitting empty that He cleared out on purpose?
- What is the one request you are carrying into Sunday? Write it down and say it out loud.

WRITE IT DOWN

The Declarations

Philippians 4:6 says let your requests be MADE KNOWN. So say them out loud.

I am not asking for something new. I am asking for something back.

Restore the years. I am not negotiating the total.

I bring You empty vessels, and I am not bringing a few.

Do not let the oil stop on my end.

Fill me again. Fill me full. Fill me now.

I lost Your Spirit in a garden. Put it back in me.

THEN THE THREE — DO NOT RUSH THE THIRD

Lord, You know all things. You know that I love You.

Lord, You know all things. You know that I love You.

Lord, You know all things. You know that I love You.

Ye have not, because ye ask not.

JAMES 4:2

Name Your Request

Write it down before you hear it preached, and bring this page with you.

THE RE-SEASON

Ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

JOHN 16:24

You are not asking God for something new. You are asking Him for something back.

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