



The Power of Good Home Training (Part 1)
(The New Wine of Isolation)

January 3, 2021

Theme for 2021: How To Live In a New World **(All of us have lived in new seasons and places)**

Text: Mark 2:18–22; Matthew 4:1-2

18 Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. Some people came and asked Jesus, "How is it that John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees are fasting, but yours are not?"

19 Jesus answered, "How can the guests of the bridegroom fast while he is with them? They cannot, so long as they have him with them. 20 But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them, and on that day they will fast.

21 "No one sews a patch of un-shrunk cloth on an old garment. Otherwise, the new piece will pull away from the old, making the tear worse. 22 And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins."

"The world around us is changing. The question is can you see beyond
the mental barriers and leap across your own philosophical hindrances?" (RRT)

Statement: We Need the Ability to Make Big Mental Leaps **(In Order to Live Well in This New World)**

"The ability to make **big leaps of thought** is a common denominator among the originators of breakthrough ideas. Usually, this ability resides in people with very wide backgrounds, multidisciplinary minds, and a broad spectrum of experiences. **Boundary crossers reject either/or choices and seek multiple options and blended solutions.**"

Source: A Whole New Mind by Daniel H. Pink (See Chapter 6, Seeing Relationships)

Statement: Good home training equips you for the world. Jesus modeled four abilities good home training provide.

Home Training Lesson One:
The Ability to Be Alone

Jesus was trained to fast or have times of spiritual separation (Matthew 4:1-2)

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2 After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.



Big Question: Is separation all about hunger and extreme pledges and sacrifices?

Statement: The forty day fast is not fully described or encouraged. It simply shows the power of separating yourself to God.

Side Question: Are you willing to be separate and be alone for a season to accomplish your goals?

First Question: What you can learn when you are alone?

1. You will learn that **God can provide and protect** you (I Kings 17:1-6)

- 17:1 Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the Lord, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word.”
- 2 Then the word of the Lord came to Elijah: 3 “Leave here, turn eastward and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. 4 You will drink from the brook, and I have directed the ravens to supply you with food there.”
- 5 So he did what the Lord had told him. He went to the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan, and stayed there. 6 The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.

2. You will learn that God has a **bigger plan** than you can see. (**I am living in a plan I never dreamed**)

3. **You will learn that God is sending you to a strategic place for a strategic season (Kings 17-24)**

- 17:17 Some time later the son of the woman who owned the house became ill. He grew worse and worse, and finally stopped breathing. 18 She said to Elijah, “What do you have against me, man of God? Did you come to remind me of my sin and kill my son?”
- 19 “Give me your son,” Elijah replied. He took him from her arms, carried him to the upper room where he was staying, and laid him on his bed. 20 Then he cried out to the Lord, “Lord my God, have you brought tragedy even on this widow I am staying with, by causing her son to die?” 21 Then he stretched himself out on the boy three times and cried out to the Lord, “Lord my God, let this boy’s life return to him!”
- 22 The Lord heard Elijah’s cry, and the boy’s life returned to him, and he lived. 23 Elijah picked up the child and carried him down from the room into the house. He gave him to his mother and said, “Look, your son is alive!”
- 24 Then the woman said to Elijah, “Now I know that you are a man of God and that the word of the Lord from your mouth is the truth.”



Conclusion: How Can This Be Applied to Us?

1. We have been **provided for** in miraculous ways
2. We have seen a bigger **digital plan** than we ever imagined
3. We have a new **strategic assignment** that takes us beyond the building
4. We will be given the **resources** we need to accomplish our assignment

Next Time: The New Wine of Prioritizing; Read Ahead: Matthew 4:3-5