

Being Enough

In her book, *Daring Greatly*, Dr. Brene Brown introduces the idea of scarcity not being the opposite of abundance. "In fact, I think abundance and scarcity are two sides of the same coin. The opposite of 'never enough' isn't abundance or 'more than you could ever imagine.' The opposite of scarcity is enough, or what I call Wholeheartedness." (Pg 29) Brown goes on to talk about Wholeheartedness and vulnerability. I think we can see this being enough idea throughout the Bible.

Let's start with the Doubting Thomas story. Jesus comes back and visits his disciples but Thomas isn't there. He doubts the story they're telling. But to have doubt, you have to have just a little bit of a belief in something. That's enough for God to work with. God takes Thomas' doubt, shows him Jesus and then shows Thomas all the ways he can grow his faith by sharing the Gospel. God takes Thomas' enoughness and creates an abundance.

Another example we know well is the Parable of the Mustard Seed. Jesus describes the kingdom of God like a tiny mustard seed. When you plant the tiny seed it grows and grows into a large bush that provides shade for many animals. Our faith is like this too. When we have a little bit of faith that is enough for us to give away. God can take it and make it grow into an abundance of faith that changes others.

What about a story like the Parable of the Rich Fool in Luke (12:13-21)? A man's field produces an abundance of crops. He stores them away so he can rest easy. His scarcity is in his love and in his giving. We can assume that the rich fool's community is like ours. If someone has an abundance of something, then someone else probably has a scarcity of that same something. But if the rich fool were to give away his crops/love, that would be enough.

In contrast, we see the Parable of the Widow's Offering in Mark (12:41-44). A widow doesn't have much money to tithe to the church, yet she still gives. Others who have more than enough give as well. Jesus points out that if you give, not out of abundance but yet having enough, then you will have more than before. The widow's ability to be enough has now created an abundance. (And we know that when we give to the church, it goes beyond just ourselves. Just talk to Paul, Cortney or the Steady's.)

All things come from God. Sometimes we say that in church when we present the offering. "All things come from thee, O Lord" "And of thine own, we have given thee." If we come from God, and we're made in God's image, then we are enough. God has made us just like that. God plants little mustard seeds of faith in us for us to plant in the world. We always have enough love to give. We always have enough faith to share even when we doubt like Thomas. God makes us enough.

Think about these questions this week:
How are you enough?

What do you need an abundance of?

How does sharing what you have make you a better disciple?

Who can you reach out to this week to remind them that they are enough just as they are?

You can get *Daring Greatly* here:

https://www.amazon.com/Daring-Greatly-Courage-Vulnerable-Transforms/dp/B07DX6TNR1/ref=sr_1_1?crd=16LF99PMR2GMD&dchild=1&keywords=daring+greatly&qid=1587655348&sprefix=darin%2Caps%2C402&sr=8-1