

## Bucket Filling

S.R. Luke 6:31 – 38

9 – 27 – 2020

Introduction: Idea came from a second grade teacher. Book by Carol McCloud.

- A. Filling Buckets of potatoes
- B. Filling Sacks of potatoes from the buckets
- C. Good feelings came from working hard and filling the buckets.

### I. Concept of Bucket Filling (Luke 6:31 and 38)

- A. Everybody has a bucket
  - 1. You have a bucket
  - 2. Your mom and dad have a bucket
  - 3. Your brother and sister have a bucket
- B. Your grandparents, friends, neighbors and everyone at church has a bucket.
- C. It is an invisible bucket. It is your heart, your emotions; your feelings about yourself.

### II. Your Bucket has a Purpose:

- A. Its purpose is to hold good thoughts about yourself and others (Ph'p. 4:8).
- B. But you alone cannot fill your bucket.

### III. Full and Empty Buckets

- A. You feel happy and good when your bucket is full
- B. You feel very sad and lonely when your bucket is empty
- C. Others feel the same way about their bucket as you do about yours.

### IV. Full Buckets: How to have one

- A. You need other people to help fill your bucket
- B. Other people need you to help fill their bucket
- C. How do you fill a bucket?
  - 1. First, you have to realize that only God can completely fill your bucket (1 Samuel 30:1 – 6; Josh. 1:6 – 9)
  - 2. You fill a bucket when you show love to someone.
  - 3. You fill another's bucket by kind deeds (Eph. 4:25, 32)
  - 4. You fill a bucket by sacrificing what you want to serve what other's need (Ph'p.2:2 – 5)
  - 5. A bucket filler is always looking for ways, through words and actions, to fill up other's buckets.

### V. Bucket Dippers: Are you one?

- A. We can dip into other's buckets and take out some of the good feelings.
  - 1. We are a dipper when we make fun of someone.
  - 2. Say or do mean things to someone
  - 3. Ignore or refuse to share with someone
- B. A bully is a bucket dipper – he/she tries to threaten or intimidate in order to make others feel bad.
  - 1. Bullies often have an empty bucket and don't feel good about themselves.
  - 2. They think they can fill their bucket, by taking from others, but that never works.

3. You never fill your own bucket when you dip into someone else's.
4. "The person who throws dirt loses ground."

#### VI. Bucket filling occurs when you focus on filling the bucket of others.

- A. You feel good when you help others feel good.
- B. Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35)
  1. "In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"
  2. Jesus did not just say it, he did it. (Luke 22:24 – 27; John 13:5-6)
  3. Washed the feet of men arguing about who was greatest.
  4. Washed the feet of the man who had already arranged to sell Him to His enemies.
- C. Bucket fillers even try to fill the buckets of their enemies (Matt. 5:44 – 45)
- D. All day long we are either filling up buckets or dipping into others'.

#### VII. Filling Buckets takes Time

- A. Try to fill a bucket and see what happens.
- B. You can't fill buckets if you are always in a hurry to do what you want to do.
- C. Take time to tell your parents you love them.
  1. They won't always be here.
  2. Your caring words and respectful actions speak loudly regarding your love.
- D. Everybody is carrying some kind of burden.
  1. You can help them carry it. (Gal. 6:2, 5) Crushing load v. 2, normal cargo v. 5
  2. Prayer requests were very enlightening.
  3. Hang around long enough to share your burdens.
  4. Don't focus on the same few people each week.
  5. Get to know the family. Plenty of buckets need filling.
  6. Children are you carefully filling the buckets of -----
- E. Look for an adopted student or sibling or grandparent to show love.
- F. Little children want to fill buckets:
  1. (1 John 3:18) "My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth."
  2. Little children learn generosity from their father.
- G. Filled to all the fullness (Eph. 3:17) "that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height; 19 to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be **filled with all the fullness of God.**"
- H. Filling buckets doesn't take lots of money or time, but it does require thoughtfulness.
- I. Bucket filling goes a long way to making yourself, your friend, your father and your brother feel better.
- J. Start each day by planning to fill someone's bucket today.

Conclusion: Determine today to be a Bucket Filler not a Bucket Dipper?