

## The "Great" Woman of II Kings 4:8-37, 8:1-6

*A story with three questions*

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- 8 - "Great" – dignity, prominent, impressive, understanding, perception, welcoming, discernment  
A welcoming home where the man of God would find refreshment
- 9 - Great Perception – saw a need and communicated with her husband the perceptions God had given her
- 10&11-Great Hospitality – "let us...", details, went out of her way to meet needs and share
- 12&13-Great Contentment – "not pretentious but satisfied, humble, not looking for favors
- 14-20 - Great Sorrow – her greatest joy is taken away, a test of her faithfulness
- 21 - Great Faith – laid deceased son on the prophet's bed, shut the door
- 22 - Great Courtesy – in the face of trial
- 23 - Great Hope – in the face of loss
- 24 - Great Stamina, Determination – put her goal ahead of her comfort
- 25&26-Great Confidence – "It is well"
- 27 - Great Respect – knelt at his feet
- 28 - Great Anguish and Sensitivity – recounts the story
- 29 - Great Persistence – "I will not leave you"
- 37 - Great Thankfulness – bowed to the ground  
Great Commitment – took son and went out- not a victim, not a survivor but a victor
- 8:1-6 - Great Future –
- 1 & 2 - Great Wisdom – accepts the counsel of wise man of God
- 3 - Great Courage – appeals to have land returned
- 4 & 5 - Great Providence – God intervenes for her at this moment
- 6 - Great Blessing – she has favor with God and with man

### Lesson

Verse 26

1. Is it well with you?
2. Is it well with your husband?
3. Is it well with your child?

### Questions in application

1. Is it well with **yourself**? This is the primary question. What is your Spiritual and emotional health?

Not narcissistic but real health of your body, soul and spirit in the quietness of your own life and heart?

It is difficult to be well with others when you are not well with yourself.

2. Is it well with the persons **to whom** you are responsible?

Respect, concern, peace, honor, love, available, appeal, submissive

3. Is it well with the persons **for whom** you are responsible?

Honor, respect, care, self-sacrifice, affirmation, approval, support, training, love

### Notes

What makes a person "great?"

Ask self the "three questions"

Do you have boundaries in your life? Boundaries are for respect and honor (not walls)

Mothers set the tone for the home, Women set the tone for many situations in life

Set the sails for the children in your life

Take responsibility for self and others as appropriate

Submission and a meek, quiet spirit does not mean being a doormat or having martyr complex

Submissive is not passive

Do not be selfish or controlling or manipulative or defensive

Do not forge your identity at the expense of other persons

"Woman" is the crowning glory of God's creation

### Questions

Are you well enough to help to meet the needs of those around you? Are you perceptive of those needs?

Are you able to see difficulties as tests and areas of growth or are they times for a pity party?

Is it well with you?