

**Aveleigh's Season of Inspiration, Week 9 of 12, Sunday March 10, 2019**

**THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**

**SERMON: YOUR ANOINTED LIFE**

**Texts Mat. 25:1-13 p. 1065 and  
Psalm 23:5 "You anoint my head with oil"**

**Call to worship**

Leader: Come to the water, all you who thirst.

People: We come to drink deeply from the river of life.

Leader: Open yourself to the Spirit, all you who are weary.

People: We come to rest in the quiet pools of God's love.

Leader: Receive His anointing, all you who long for strength.

People: We come to be renewed in God's ever-flowing stream.

All: For God is here among us, washing away the dust and grime of our lives, and pouring out the Spirit on all who thirst. Let us worship God together.

**Prayer of confession**

Forgive us, Lord, for our preoccupation with things; for believing we would be happy if we only had more; for neglecting family in the pursuit of advancement; for giving low priority to the kingdom of God; for judging right and wrong on the basis of profit; for allowing discontent to cloud our lives; for pampering the body while starving the soul. With cries and petitions, we call out to you in the midst of our hurting. In the agony of our pain, we reach for you. In the turmoil of our brokenness, we plead for your healing touch. Save us, God. Save us from death, illness, pain, depression, economic oppression, racial inequity, fear, loneliness, violence and hate. We accept your grace and providential care for us in every area of life and cling to your anointing. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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**Mat. 25:1-13 p. 1065 & Psalm 23:5 "You anoint my head with oil"**

**PART ONE: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE ANOINTED?**

**1. ANOINTED BY GOD:** (Internal) When God's Holy Spirit gives you insight, ability, stamina, authority or protection that you don't normally have in order to do a job that He has chosen !

**2. ANOINTED BY PEOPLE:** (External) When someone prayerfully applies some oil to your skin as an outward sign of what God is doing inside you.

**PART TWO: FACTS ABOUT GOD'S ANOINTING**

**1. WHEN GOD APPOINTS YOU, HE ANOINTS YOU!**

"The One who calls you is faithful, and HE will do it!" 1 Thes. 5:24 (NIV)

**2. GOD'S ANOINTING EMPOWERS YOU TO BE A BETTER PERSON**

"Then Samuel took oil and poured it on Saul's head and said, "God has anointed you to be the leader of his people... (v6) God's Spirit will come on you in power, and you'll speak like a prophet and you'll be changed into a different person. After this happens, do whatever you think is best, because God will be with you!" 1 Sam. 10:1+6-7

**3. GOD'S ANOINTING MAKES DIFFICULT TASKS EASIER.**

"From his unlimited resources God will give you mighty inner strength through his Holy Spirit Eph. 3:16 (NLT)

**4. GOD'S ANOINTING MAKES IMPOSSIBLE TASKS POSSIBLE.**

Jesus: "What is impossible for men is possible with God." Luke 18:27 (NLT)

"God's power at work within us is able to accomplish infinitely more than we could ever dare to ask for or even imagine." Eph. 3:20 (NCV)

**5. GOD ANOINTS MY LIFE TO BLESS OTHERS** "The Spirit of the Lord is on me and he's anointed me to bring good news to the suffering and afflicted. He has sent me to comfort the brokenhearted, to announce freedom to captives, and to open the eyes of the blind. He has sent me to tell those who mourn that the time of God's favor to them has come ... To tell all who mourn that God will give beauty for ashes, joy instead of mourning, and praise instead of heaviness! Isaiah 61:1-3 (TLB)

## **6. FOR EVERY NEW CHALLENGE YOU NEED A FRESH ANOINTING**

“Sow new seeds of righteousness, and you’ll reap the fruit of My love. And break up your old hardened ground. It’s time to turn to me and seek the Lord! Then I’ll come and shower new blessings on you!”  
Hosea 10:12 (TEV)

“You don’t have it, because you don’t ask God.” James 4:2 (NIV)

## **CONCLUSION: CONTEMPORARY ANOINTED EXAMPLES**

### **1. WHEN GOD ANOINTS YOUR BUSINESS:**

“Because the Lord was with Joseph, he was greatly blessed... so that everything he did succeeded.” Gen. 39:2 (TLB)

“A generous man will prosper; and he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.”  
Prov. 11:25 (NIV)

### **2. WHEN GOD ANOINTS YOUR BODY:**

“If you are sick, ask your church leaders to pray for you and anoint you with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer that is offered in faith will bring healing and the Lord will restore your health. And if you have sinned, you will be forgiven. So, admit your sins to each other, and pray for each other so that you will be healed. The prayer of a godly person is powerful and effective.”  
James 5:14-16 (GW)

### **FOUR FOR THE ROAD, YOUR LENTEN DEVOTIONAL**

1. To be anointed by God is to have the Holy Spirit give you insights, abilities, and stamina that you would not normally have to do a job that God has called you to do. Share an experience of the Holy Spirit anointing you to complete a job God had appointed you to do.

*“From his glorious unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit.”  
Ephesians 3:16 (NLT)*

2. Tell of a time when you dealt with a difficult task and felt overwhelmed because of your limited resources and lack of strength, but prayed to God for strength and performed successfully.

*“I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.” Philippians 4:13 (NLT)*

3. What obstacles have you had to overcome, and what kinds of abilities has God given you to help overcome them?

*“God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.” Acts 10:38 (NLT)*

4. Can you provide an example of how God has anointed your life with the Holy Spirit to do good and bless others? Or can you provide an example of how someone else has been anointed by the Holy Spirit to bless you?