

ENLARGE YOUR TENT *Isaiah 54:1-2*

Pastor Jon Las

Isaiah 54:1-2

1 "Sing, barren woman, you who never bore a child; burst into song, shout for joy, you who were never in labor; because more are the children of the desolate woman than of her who has a husband," says the Lord. 2 "Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent canvases wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes."

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. To whom was this prophecy originally given? What were the circumstances when this was given?
2. Who do you think does the barren woman symbolize? What stigmas are usually attached to barrenness?
3. Be honest. What is your usual initial response when you experience a miserable/unlucky situation?
4. What is the significance of bursting into song and shouting for joy in relation to the promise of God?
5. The barren woman who has never known what it's like to be a mother is told to sing because her situation is about to change, and that her song is the seed that would water the promise into fruition. What areas in your life are you asking God to change? What do you think might be delaying the change?
6. Pastor Jon shared: *Your act of faith sets the promise in motion.* In verse 2, to prepare for what is to be, God tells the woman, "Enlarge the place of your tent." What have you learned from Sunday's message about the symbols and significance of the tent?

Tent is L _____: Significance: _____.

Tent is M _____: Significance: _____.

Tent is P _____: Significance: _____.

7. God says "stretch the canvases of your tent wide" with a corollary command, "do not hold back."

- Pastor said, "Stretching requires tension" which most people dislike. Why are stretching and tension necessary?
- What areas in your life are believing God to bring an abundance in? How can you stretch those areas to make room?
- Might there be areas in which you are holding back that prevents you from experiencing an increase?
- Pastor shared two stories about holding back and going all out, the rich young man in Luke 12 and Elisha in 1 Kings 19. What lessons do you remember from those examples?

8. Pastor shared a couple of areas in which we need to stretch as individuals and as a church.

- **Loving People.** If we want to see growth at Mosaic we must stretch by welcoming people into our lives and making room for them in our hearts. Do you struggle with making new friends? Why so? How do you think can you cooperate with the Holy Spirit in developing this area of your life so you can lead others to Christ?
- **Generosity.** If we really want to grown in the area of finances, we need to stretch in the area of generosity (read Luke 6:38). As we approach prepare for HEART FOR THE HOUSE, pray for and stretch in faith as you determine the amount you are willing to give. What areas in your expenses can you tighten in so you can stretch in generosity? Think of your unnecessary expenses.
- **Faith and Obedience.** As Isaiah 54:1-2 says, we will not experience growth unless we're willing to make room for it. What areas of the Christian life do you want to grow more in?

Announcements : HEART FOR THE HOUSE OFFERING! (December 15)
CHRISTMAS EVE (December 24th 7:00PM Vic Juba Theatre)
NYE Praise Party (December 31st 10:30PM Knox Hall)