

Breaking Free From Containment: 4

Do Not Spare

Isaiah 54.1-3

The word *containment* means to 'control or prevent something from moving, increasing or extending'

Three simple yet profoundly powerful words – 'do not spare' – the revelation contained in these three words will break the spirit of containment in your life.

The word *spare* means 'to refrain from, hold back, keep for oneself, withhold, hinder'

The essence of this statement is that we have a generous spirit, a generous nature. A miserly or stingy spirit leads to containment.

There is one thing worse than poverty itself – a poverty spirit.

You can be poor and yet still have a generous spirit – but a poverty spirit will bring you into containment.

The Hebrews that lived in and around Jerusalem were told not to hold back but to throw open their dwelling places and to be generous in their thinking.

Containment will cause us to think and act sparingly, within the bounds and limitations.

2 Corinthians 9.5-8

- those who think and act (sow) sparingly reap the same, but those who are generous and bountiful reap the same measure and break free from containment.
- giving out of a poverty spirit is a “grudging obligation” but thinking and acting generously and bountifully causes verse 8 to come into effect – that's breaking free from containment.

Proverbs 18.16

- A man's gift (coming from a generous spirit) will make room for him. It will increase and enlarge him – it will cause him to break free from containment.

Proverbs 22.9

- The word *eye* in this verse can mean 'fountain or spring' and can be used to denote a man's spirit and life. To the one who is generous and does not spare will be blessed.

Proverbs 11.24-25

- Those who withhold more than is right shall be led into poverty or be contained. But the generous spirit that scatters and sows shall increase and be made rich (to prosper or make fat)

Isaiah 32.8

- The generous man thinks up ways to be a blessing to others.
- His generosity will cause him to stand (rise up, be established, be successful).
- His generous spirit will bring him out of containment.

Luke 6.38

- The reason many of us get contained is because we have a poverty mentality – in order to be free from the containment of poverty we need to be generous and give.

The spirit of poverty conforms us to the world's system – keep back, save, store up. The only way to break free from that is to adopt a spirit of generosity. Do not spare (refrain from, hold back, keep for oneself, withhold, hinder). Think of ways to be a blessing to others.