



“Running Out of Gas”

By Shelley Hitz

Welcome to the Find Your True Beauty Podcast! Girls, it's time to take a stand for true beauty. In a world that idolizes outer beauty, let's come together and learn to display our true beauty. I'm Shelly Hitz the author of the website: findyourtruebeauty.com, and today I want to share with you an embarrassing story from this week.

You see, my husband is out of town this week he's speaking in California, and so I was driving our truck. And I noticed on Monday that our truck was starting to run out of gas. It was pretty low and I needed to get it filled up, but one thing led to the other and I kept procrastinating. Well you can only guess what happened to me on Wednesday after work. Yep, I ran out of gas. So I'm sitting at this stoplight getting ready to go when it turned green, and I had no gas. I was stuck. People are honking their horns like, 'Come on lady! Let's go!' And there's nothing I could do. I could not move my vehicle. How embarrassing.

Well a police officer sees me; he stops. These people from work are driving by me and one guy actually stopped. And so he and the police officer pushed my truck out of the way, into a neighboring parking lot. And while we were there I was talking to the officer, and he said he'd be willing to take me the two miles to my home, get my gas can, take me to a gas station, and bring me back. But the guy from work says, 'Oh no problem, I'll take her. I'll take her to her home and get her gas can. I'll take her to the gas station,' and the police officer is just lookin' at him like 'your gonna take her where? Like how do you know her?' So he says to my co-worker, he says, 'Do you know her?' And later my co-worker said, 'I didn't realize how it sounded. You know, I'll taker her.' And so he said, 'Yeah we know each other from work.' And he then looks at me and he says, 'Do you know him?' ha ha, I said, 'Yes, I do.' He says, 'Do you feel comfortable going with him?' I said, 'Yes.' So we went got the gas can, got the gas, and sure enough, when we put that gas back in that tank, I was able to get my truck started, and I was able to get home.

Well I want to ask you today, have you ever felt empty in your life (spiritually speaking)? Have you ever felt like you were stuck, so to speak?

I believe that just as that gas tank is created to be filled with gas, we are vessels created to be filled with something. And 2 Corinthians 4:7 tells us that we are vessels; we're a jar of clay.

Say's: *but we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.*

We're not just designed to contain anything or just something. But we're vessels designed to contain someone. I'm not just a vessel; I'm actually a temple. Because you see 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 says, *Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.*

What is the purpose of a temple? Well may I suggest to you that the purpose of the temple is to contain a god? And in our case as believers, as Christians, as Christ followers, we have been designed to contain the God of this universe, God Almighty.

Not only are we a temple that contains God Almighty, but used to become a vine, and we are the branches. John 15:5 says, *"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a girl remains in me and I in her, she will bear much fruit; however, apart from me you can do nothing."*

I want to ask you, if you feel stuck today in your life? If you feel empty, if you feel like you're running on fumes, just barely surviving? Because I know I have been there before. And if you are I want to encourage you, to realize that just as I ran out of that gas on Wednesday, and was just stuck. That when we try to do things on our own strength and our own ways, when we try to find our true beauty on our own. When we try to strive and do things, we're gonna reach a point, where we're gonna reach empty. But we are designed to be vessels, just like that gas tank is designed to be filled with gas, we are designed to be filled with the Holy Spirit. And when we connect with God, when we connect and we're grafted into that vine and to Jesus Christ, and we abide in him, we will bare much fruit. But it say's apart from me, apart from Jesus we can do nothing.

So I encourage you today, is your tank full? Or is it empty? I encourage you to plug in to the vine.



Shelley Hitz is an ordinary person, just like you, with struggles and trials. And yet, God is doing extra-ordinary things through this "jar of clay." 2 Cor 4:7 says, *"We have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all surpassing power is from God and not from us."*

Her heart is to help teen girls and women through her website, www.FindYourTrueBeauty.com, that reaches thousands of people each month around the world with God's truth. She is also the author of the book, "Mirror Mirror...Am I Beautiful" and has co-authored a book with her husband CJ, "The Mathematics of Jesus, Making Sense of Life When Life Doesn't Seem to Add Up." Shelley's openness and vulnerability as she shares her own story of hope and healing will inspire and encourage you.

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