

# “ATM: Ask the Master”

## (ATM Part 1)

19 February 2025

Techie M. Rodriguez  
Elder-Founder



## THE LORD'S FLOCK GROW DIGEST

In today's world, we refer to the term “ATM” as “Automated Teller Machine” or “At The Moment.” However, in our spiritual life, “ATM” means “Ask The Master.” When we become too busy that we fail to nurture our relationship with the Lord, let us ask the Lord for the grace to fill our spiritual emptiness. God fills the void. He sent His Son, Jesus Christ to fill our lives with His presence.

### 1. What are the synonyms of “empty” in the Bible?

1.1 Barren: Sarah, Abraham's wife, was barren. Even in their old age, they had no child. But their faith was filled with hope in the Lord (Rom. 4:19-21). God gave them a son, Isaac, after more than twenty years.

1.2 Unfruitfulness: The fig tree was cursed by Jesus Christ when He found no fruit in it (Mt. 21:18-21). We are reminded to bear fruit as Christians, especially the fruit of the Holy Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23).

1.3. Contains nothing: The empty jar of the widow was blessed by God. It was filled through Elijah's visit, as the widow followed his instructions (2 Kgs. 4:2-4).

1.4. Deserted: Elijah felt abandoned while running away from his enemies. However, he realized that God was looking out for him (1 Kgs. 19).

1.5 Unoccupied: Jesus Christ warned that evil will come if one remains empty of God's presence (Matt. 12:43-44).

1.6 Hollow: Joseph (the dreamer) was thrown into an empty well. However, he was blessed by God and became a powerful person in Egypt.

1.7 Insincere: An insincere person is not earnest in prayer and relationship with God. God will not listen to an empty cry (Job 35:13).

1.8. Vacant: We are not being used for service.

1.9 Empty Words: We utter words that we do not mean (Eph. 5:6).

### 2. There are many examples of empty vessels in the Bible:

2.1 Empty Nets (Luke 5): Nothing is sadder than a fisherman with empty nets. However, our Lord Jesus Christ filled their nets when they followed His instructions.

2.2 Empty Lamps (Matt. 25:1-13): The foolish virgins failed to prepare for unfortunate delays. The doors were shut to them because they were late in replenishing their lamps with oil. Thus, we must always be prepared.

2.3 Empty Cisterns (Gen. 27:33): Joseph was thrown into an empty reservoir. This can also describe a person's emotional state of emptiness.

3. **Life Without God is Empty.** A person feels unhappy without God's presence. All the things we enjoy and everything we own cannot give us satisfaction. God wants us to empty ourselves so He can fill us with Himself. Our heart is a big vacuum, and only the King of Kings can fill it. Life is transitory, and we will pass quickly in this world (Ps. 90:10).

4. **God is continually looking for empty vessels.** He will fill them with the oil of grace and mercy. Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit. Similarly, we will be used for God's purpose and made holy (2 Tim 2:21-22). We must be filled with the Holy Spirit (Eph. 5:18).

### Conclusion:

In moments when we face emptiness amidst our daily battles, we must “Ask the Master,” to fill us with His presence. As promised by our Lord Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit is always with us. We must let Him lead us to the joy of Christianity.

### Reflections:

1. How full or empty do you feel?
3. What do you need to ask the Master?

**Prayer:** “Please, dear Lord, please fill me with your presence. Let your love, peace and joy surround me. Help me feel your comfort and guidance. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.”