



ELIJAH AND THE WIDOW



1 KINGS 17

Instructions

The curriculum we use for elementary aged children goes through the Bible chronologically. Currently we are finishing up the book of Deuteronomy. So that your child can continue their journey through the Bible we will be putting together VERY basic Bible lessons for you to do at home. Below you will find a summary of this week's Bible passage. All you have to do is read it with your kids. Then you will see two different sets of discussion questions. One for older kids (3rd-4th grade range) and one for younger kids (Kinder-2nd grade range). Read the discussion questions with your kids. Remember, discussion is not one sided, it's different people talking together. Give your kids the opportunity to think and speak. I pray the Lord speaks to you and your family as you dive into His word together.

Tell the Bible Story

Elijah the prophet spoke to Ahab, the evil king of Israel, and gave him a message: "There will be no dew or rain for the next few years unless I command it. This will certainly happen."

Then God told Elijah to go to a place near a stream. God said the ravens would provide food for

Elijah to eat. So Elijah obeyed God. The ravens brought him bread and meat, and he drank water from the stream. After a while, the stream dried up because there was no rain in the land.

Then God told Elijah to go a small village. God said a widow in the town would provide for Elijah. So Elijah obeyed God. When Elijah got to the gate of the city, he saw a widow gathering wood. He called to her, "Please bring me a little water so I can drink." As she went to get it, he added, "Please bring me a piece of bread too."



But the woman told Elijah, “I don’t have bread. I only have a little bit of flour and oil.” The woman and her son were planning to eat one more meal before they died from hunger.

“Don’t be afraid,” Elijah said. “Go and prepare the meal, but first bring me a small loaf of bread. Then make some for yourself and your son. God says you will not run out of flour or oil until rain comes again.”

So the woman prepared the meal. She, Elijah, and everyone in her household had enough to eat, and she did not run out of flour or oil just like the Lord had said.

Some time later, the woman’s son got sick and he stopped breathing. Elijah took the boy upstairs and laid him on the bed. He cried out to God, stretched himself out over the boy three times, and cried out to God again. “Lord my God, please let this boy live again!” Elijah Prayed.

The Lord listened to Elijah, and the boy’s life came into him again. He was alive! Elijah led the boy to his mother. She said to Elijah, “Now I know you are a man of God, and the Lord really does speak through you.”

CHRIST CONNECTION:

God miraculously provided through Elijah to give food to the widow and life to the widow’s son. Many years later, God miraculously provided through His own Son, Jesus. Jesus is greater than Elijah. In Jesus, God provides salvation and life to everyone who trusts in Him.

Discussion & Bible Skills - Older

Distribute Bibles. Guide boys and girls to open their Bibles to 1 Kings 17. Display on a focal wall the lists of kings from the “Kings of Israel and Judah” printable. Keep the lists in view for the remainder of the volume (through the story of Ezekiel). Remind kids that Elijah was a prophet in Israel. Tape the Elijah name tag next to the list of Israel’s kings. Point out that at the time of today’s Bible story, Ahab was king in Israel. Tape the arrow so it points to Ahab.



Read aloud 1 Kings 17:13-14. Ask the following questions. Lead your kids and discuss:

1. What did Elijah's miracles prove to the widow?

Remind your kids how the widow responded to God's raising her son through Elijah. She said, "Now I know you are a man of God." Lead your kids to recognize that miracles are amazing things only God can do, so Elijah's miracles were proof that God was working through him.

2. Do you believe God's Word is true? Why or why not?

Invite your kids to share their thoughts. Explain that the Bible is accurate, is supported by historical records, has unity from beginning to end, contains accurate prophecy, and endures forever. God's Word is simple enough for little children to learn from and deep enough for the wisest teachers to study their whole life.

3. How can being generous teach others about Jesus?

Lead your kids to consider that we can be generous when we believe everything we have is from God and we trust God to provide everything we need. Point out that the widow shared her food with Elijah and trusted God to provide.



SAY:

In today's Bible story, the people were suffering because of a drought. God held back the rain so there was no water and no food. This is what God had warned would happen if the people disobeyed God's commands by worshiping idols instead of Him. Still, God provided in miraculous ways.

Discussion & Bible Skills - Younger

Help your kids find 1 Kings 17. Remind the kids that 1 Kings is in the Old Testament History division.

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss:

1. Who was king of Israel when Elijah announced the famine?

Ahab, 1 Kings 17:1

2. How did God provide for Elijah at first?

Ravens brought him food, and he drank from a stream; 1 Kings 17:6

3. What did God do through Elijah for the widow and her son?

Provided abundant flour and oil and raised the son from the dead; 1 Kings 17:16,22



4. What are some ways God has provided for you or your family?

Guide your kids to discuss the various ways God provides for people. Remind them that even the more “normal” kinds of provisions are from God, such as their homes, their food, their friends, and their lives. All good things are blessings from God.

5. Can you think of a time you struggled to trust God?

Discuss situations kids may face that can be frightening and lead to distrusting God. Help kids talk through ways we can turn our hearts back toward God, such as reading our Bibles, praying, or talking to other believers about our sins and struggles.

6. What was God’s ultimate provision for people?

Guide your kids to see that we are all born in sin. Our greatest need is salvation, and God has provided the only way to be saved from sin through Jesus’ death and resurrection. When we trust in Him, He removes our sin and gives us His righteousness. This is the most miraculous provision of all.



SAY:

God provided in miraculous ways. He proved that He is the one true God. God’s provision isn’t always through miracles. Often, God provides for us in normal, everyday kinds of ways, and that’s good too!