

ELIJAH AND THE WIDOW

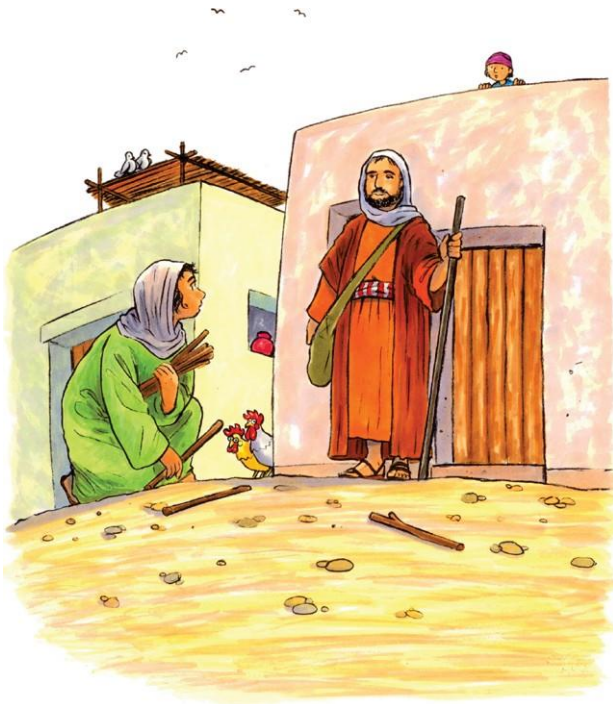
1 Kings 17:8-16



Contents

Message	God wonderfully provides and cares for us when we trust in Him.
Learning Objectives	The children will learn: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ God provides and cares for us even when it seems impossible.■ God blesses those who give to Him first.
Bible Text	1 Kings 17:8-16

Elijah and the Widow



The woman said to him, "I do not have any bread, just a handful of flour in my pot and a little oil in a jug. I have gathered some wood. I am going home to prepare something to eat for my son and me. I will use the flour and oil that is left. Then we will die."

Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid. Go and do as you have said. But first, make something for me. Then you can make something for yourself and your son. God promises you that the flour in your pot shall never be used up and the jug of oil will never be empty until the Lord allows it to rain again."

She did as Elijah asked of her. And Elijah, the widow and her son had something to eat every day. As long as the drought lasted, there was always flour in the pot and the jug of oil was never empty, just as God had promised.

For a very long time, there was no rain, which caused a great drought. Food was difficult to find. God instructed Elijah to go to Zarephath. When he arrived at the city gate, there was a woman gathering sticks. Elijah asked the woman, "Please bring me some water to drink." The woman went away. Elijah called after her, "Could I have a little bread as well, please."

Suggestions for the Teacher

Lead-In

Show the picture to the children. Discuss with them what they see. Ask what she/he may feel....

Let some of the children play the story in a role-play. Instruct them before.

Provide disguise / fancy dress and additional materials like boxes with flour, salt, oil.

Lesson Instructions

Begin telling the story...

Discuss with the children...

- How does Elijah feel as he enters the city? (He is tired and hungry.)
- How does the widow feel when Elijah approaches her? (She and her son are going to die.)
- Why does she want to die? (Because she only has enough oil and flour to make one bread.)
- What does Elijah promise the widow? (The oil and flour will last throughout the drought.)
- Why do you think the woman agrees to feed Elijah first? (She trusts Elijah's promise.)

Have the children repeat...

- God provides and cares for us even when it seems impossible.
- God blesses those who give to Him first.

Real-Life Application (explain the following)

- Elijah trusted God would provide for him. The widow trusted Elijah.
- When we fully trust God and give to Him first, He will provide and care for us.
- Give examples for this out of your personal experience.

Repeat the Message
God wonderfully provides and cares for us when we
trust in Him.