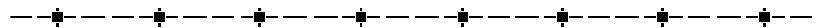


Old Testament

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2009

Through the Old Testament in Two Years

Part One



Created for use with young, unchurched learners
Adaptable for all ages including adults

Old Testament

Elijah and the Widow

Last week we learned that Elijah had to give King Ahab some bad news. Ahab was a bad king, but Elijah was God's messenger. He did what God told him to do. Elijah's life was in danger. God told Elijah where to go. He provided for Elijah's needs.

I Kings 17

Read the Bible

READ: I Kings 17:7-16 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Memory Verse:

God supplies seed to the planter. He supplies bread for food. God will also supply and increase the amount of your seed. He will increase the results of your good works.
(II Corinthians 9:10 NIV)

Begin With Prayer

Elijah was a special messenger from God. People knew that Elijah loved God and they trusted him to tell them the truth.

Unfortunately, the king wanted Elijah killed because God had not sent rain in a very, very, long time. The whole country was brown, and it was hard to find water and vegetables to eat because of the hot sun and lack of water. (I Kings 17:1-6)

Goals

1. Understand that God sent Elijah to Zarephath.
2. Learn that Elijah trusted God.
3. Recognize that the widow trusted God.
4. Understand that God provided for Elijah, the widow, and her son.

One day, God told Elijah to go to the town of Zarephath. (God told Elijah there was a woman there who would give him food.) (I Kings 17:7-9)

When he arrived in the town, he saw a woman gathering sticks. Elijah called out to her for help. He asked her to bring him a drink of water. So she went to get the water. (I Kings 17:10)

While she was on her way, Elijah called out to her to bring him a piece of bread. She ran back to Elijah and explained that she only had one meal left for her son and herself. She told him that they had no more flour or oil to make any more bread. (I Kings 17:11-12)

Elijah confidently told her not to be afraid. He knew that God would take care of both of them because He promised Elijah that He would take care of their needs. Elijah told her to go home and make a loaf of bread for him first. Then, she was to make some bread for herself and her son. He told the woman that the jar of flour and the jug of oil would not run out until it started to rain again. (I Kings 17:13-14)

Elijah was confident because he trusted God to meet his needs. Remem-

Elijah and the Widow – Bible Facts

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. God told Elijah to go to Zarephath. | 2. A widow would feed Elijah. |
| 3. Elijah and the widow obeyed God. | 4. God provided for Elijah, the widow, and her son. |

ber God had provided for Elijah by sending ravens to feed him bread and water. (I Kings 17:1-6)

The woman trusted Elijah and did as he said. Sure enough, there was food for Elijah and for her family. Just as Elijah said, God continued to give flour and oil so that it never ran out! (I Kings 17:16)

Some time later, the woman's son became very sick. He continued to get worse and worse until he stopped breathing! The woman asked Elijah why this had happened to her. (I Kings 17:17-18)

Elijah carried the son upstairs and cried out to God for help. He stretched his arms over the child three times and asked God to revive the child. (I Kings 17:19-21)

God heard Elijah's prayer and brought the boy back to life. When the woman saw her son alive, she told Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God and that you speak the truth from God." (I Kings 17:22-24)

Elijah helped that woman and her son know that God was the only true God. She trusted in God and knew that His ways are the best. She saw how God took care of her needs (with flour and water and reviving her son). She could tell others of God's amazing power and love.

Review

- 1. What did God tell Elijah to do?** (Go to Zarephath.)
- 2. What was going to happen there?** (A widow would feed Elijah.)
- 3. What happened next?** (Elijah and the widow obeyed God.)
- 4. What did God do?** (God provided for Elijah, the widow, and her son.)

Do You Know Jesus?

Jesus died and came back to life for a very important reason. He died to pay the price for all the wrong things we have done. When Jesus came back to life, He made a way for us to go to Heaven one day if we believe in Him and trust Him in our hearts. Would you like to know more about trusting in Jesus?

Prayer Time

- 1. Take a moment to listen to God.**
- 2. Thank God for sending Jesus to die for our sins.**
- 3. Ask God to help you trust Him for all your needs.**
- 4. Pray for friends and family members who need to trust Him for all their needs.**

Application

God sent Elijah to Zarephath. Elijah obeyed and trusted God. He told the widow that the flour and oil would not run out. The widow trusted God and did what Elijah said. God provided for Elijah, the widow, and her son. God wants us to trust Him for our needs.

Planning for the next week:

Elijah at Mt. Carmel — I Kings 18:16-39

Preschool Lesson

Read the Bible

READ: I Kings 17:7-16 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Teachers: Bring bread and butter. Allow the children to eat the bread as you tell the story.

Today, I want to tell you a story about a woman and how God helped her.

One day, a widow woman looked in her flour jar. It was almost empty. She looked so sad. There was only enough oil and flour to make a loaf of bread. The woman sighed and whispered that she had no money for any more food or bread.

She told her son that she was going to gather sticks for a fire for the oven to bake the bread. She was not gone very long. Instead of being sad, though, she was humming and smiling. She quickly made the bread and didn't worry about the food. She also brought a guest into her home.

Instead of giving the bread to her son, she gave it to a special man from God. His name was Elijah. He loved God and told the woman all about how much God loved her.

Elijah munched on the bread and enjoyed it. He must have been very hungry.

An amazing thing happened! The jar of oil did not run out! The flour jar did not run out!

Elijah told the woman that God would not let the flour or oil run out because she obeyed God and did as Elijah told her.

The woman was so grateful for God's kindness to her. She loved God and believed in Him.

Prayer Time

- 1. Take a moment to listen to God.**
- 2. Thank God for sending Jesus to die for our sins.**
- 3. Ask God to help you trust Him to give you all you need.**

Memory verse for younger children

God supplies... bread for food. II Corinthians 9:10

Learning Activities

- Memory verse activity** — Cut out pictures of loaves of bread. Write the memory verse.

- Test your memory** — Bring sticks, oil, and flour. Use them to tell the story.

- Taste activity** — Bring crackers for a snack.

- Think about it** — The widow believed and trusted God. Talk about the importance of trusting God.

Elijah trusted God. He asked the widow to feed him before she fed her own son. Talk about Elijah's faith.

- Touch activity** — Bring pictures of wood stoves. Explain how the sticks were used for cooking.

Bring play dough and let the children pretend to knead the dough.

- Run and play** — Bring wood sticks or other items. Have the children play races to see who can pick up sticks the fastest.

- Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to trust Him.

- Sing** — Sing "Trust and Obey," "Jehovah Jireh," or another song related to the story.

- Reach out** — During class, pray (by name) for kids that did not come today. Ask the children to go with you to deliver the handouts to those who were absent. Take the pictures of the loaves of bread with verse for each child. Encourage them to read the story in the Bible.

Memory Verse

God supplies seed
to the planter.

He supplies bread
for food.

God will also
supply and increase
the amount of your seed.

He will increase
the results of your good works.

II Corinthians 9:10

Word Puzzle

Trace the letters.

THE FLOUR

AND OIL

DID NOT

RUN OUT

Word Search

J K T P M E D I V O R P S E T F G B N
G R F N V C S Q D N G R L P J B K V C
N S B F E I T S F L B C R D F D M L B
T S D B P D B K G C A D A F R B K L S
V K R E K D I R N R V E S T R B L J P
S K N B E R T F I R R P H F S P T G I
C B R K S N F M N B V D C R K D N H L
M T F G B N H L I O P S D B T N F V P
H S N T E W F A T F C D J V L N L J H
T B S H I S V B J E L H T B R V K N F
F V C D C F R D C I A O A T C T P M R
B M O L K K S G F D L C U M C N B S Y
K W U K D L G N P R S E D R R G D T L

WIDOW

FLOUR

BREAD

MIRACLE

OIL

ELIJAH

CONFIDENT

PROVIDE

NEEDS

Word Search

J	K	T	P	M	E	D	I	V	O	R	P	S	E	T	F	G	B	N
G	R	F	N	V	C	S	Q	D	N	G	R	L	P	J	B	K	V	C
N	S	B	F	E	I	T	S	F	L	B	C	R	D	F	D	M	L	B
T	S	D	B	P	D	B	K	G	C	A	D	A	F	R	B	K	L	S
V	K	R	E	K	D	I	R	N	R	V	E	S	T	R	B	L	J	P
S	K	N	B	E	R	T	F	I	R	R	P	H	F	S	P	T	G	I
C	B	R	K	S	N	F	M	N	B	V	D	C	R	K	D	N	H	L
M	T	F	G	B	N	H	L	I	O	P	S	D	B	T	N	F	V	P
H	S	N	T	E	W	F	A	T	F	C	D	J	V	L	N	L	J	H
T	B	S	H	I	S	V	B	J	E	L	H	T	B	R	V	K	N	F
F	V	C	D	C	F	R	D	C	I	A	O	A	T	C	T	P	M	R
B	M	O	L	K	K	S	G	F	D	L	C	U	M	C	N	B	S	Y
K	W	U	K	D	L	G	N	P	R	S	E	D	R	R	G	D	T	L

WIDOW

FLOUR

BREAD

MIRACLE

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NEEDS

Word Search

R F V M N G K T B N L J
S J H K B D W C S D P M
P R G F K S B L G M K N
S B M S P R B P F G K D
J R V D M K J B R E A D
J F G G M M I R A C L E
H P N J P T S J R H C M
D R K P B R G F L O U R
S M V Y G P E L I J A H
N R K T D M P L M B J S
F G P R M S V O I L C D
V L D B R F G W I D O W

WIDOW

ELIJAH

FLOUR

OIL

BREAD

MIRACLE

Word Search

R	F	V	M	N	G	K	T	B	N	L	J
S	J	H	K	B	D	W	C	S	D	P	M
P	R	G	F	K	S	B	L	G	M	K	N
S	B	M	S	P	R	B	P	F	G	K	D
J	R	V	D	M	K	J	B	R	E	A	D
J	F	G	G	M	M	I	R	A	C	L	E
H	P	N	J	P	T	S	J	R	H	C	M
D	R	K	P	B	R	G	F	L	O	U	R
S	M	V	Y	G	P	E	L	I	J	A	H
N	R	K	T	D	M	P	L	M	B	J	S
F	G	P	R	M	S	V	O	I	L	C	D
V	L	D	B	R	F	G	W	I	D	O	W

WIDOW

ELIJAH

FLOUR

OIL

BREAD

MIRACLE

Anagram

WWODI

TRPHHAAEZ

LUROF

ILO

TRHGAE

SSKCIT

EDRAB

NOS

EDI

Anagram

WIDOW

ZAREPHATH

FLOUR

OIL

GATHER

STICKS

BREAD

SON

DIE