

Character Study: Elijah
Part 3 – Elijah and the Widow
I Kings 17:8-24

What's happening?

- While remaining at the brook without water, Elijah was told by the Lord to travel to Zarephath where he would find a widow who would provide for him. (17:8-9)
- Elijah traveled to Zarephath and found the widow at the city's gate. He asked her for water and bread, but she told him that she only had a handful of flour and a little oil. (17:10-12)
- Elijah told the widow not to fear, but to go ahead and make the bread because the Lord had said the food would not run out. They ate for several days without the flour or oil ever being used up. (17:13-16)
- The widow had a son who became sick and died. The widow was very upset. Elijah took the child to the upper room and asked the Lord to revive him. The Lord heard his prayer and brought the boy back to life. Seeing her son alive, the widow recognized Elijah as a true man of God. (17:17-24)

What's God doing?

> God was molding Elijah into a man of faith. Elijah had been taken out of his comfort zone and placed in situations where he had to learn to trust God. Through this time, God had also revealed His miraculous power both to Elijah and the widow. God is leaving no doubt that He can be trusted.

What's to learn?

→ When we follow God in obedience, we may face difficult days. One of the biggest difficulties may come from being taken out of our comfort zones and learning to adjust to what God has for us. In these moments, do not give up. God is doing something in your life that only He can do. And when God is doing something, He always has a reason. Press forward and the end goal will come into clearer focus!

→ Always remember that God is working to do things around us that we cannot do by our own power. Just as Elijah had to trust God to raise the boy from the dead, we too have to trust God to do the impossible!