

# The Prophet Elijah

1 Kings 16:29 - 17:24



**God provided for all of Elijah's needs.**



## The Story

The people of Israel had a very bad king named Ahab. Ahab did not worship the true God. He worshiped false gods called Baal and Asherah. These were just statues made from stone or wood. His wicked wife, Queen Jezebel, even killed as many of God's prophets as she could find. Jezebel and Ahab wanted all the people of Israel to worship their false gods, Baal and Asherah.

God knew what King Ahab and Queen Jezebel were doing. God wanted the people of Israel to be saved from their sins. The only way to be saved is to believe in the true God, not false gods. God sent His prophet Elijah to warn King Ahab and the people of Israel to worship only the true God. Elijah told King Ahab, "The living God, whom I serve, the God of Israel will not send rain or dew unless I say so." Without any water, the plants would die and there would not be enough food to feed the people.

God knew King Ahab would try to kill Elijah, so He told Elijah to go away to the east and live by a brook. (A brook is a small stream of water.) "You will drink from the stream, and I've ordered the crows to feed you there."

Elijah obeyed the Lord. He went away and lived by the brook. God told the crows to bring bread and meat to Elijah every morning and evening, and Elijah drank water from the stream.

Meanwhile, with no rain for several years, many of the plants the farmers grew for food died, and there was very little food left for the people of Israel. The Lord wanted the people of Israel to get rid of their false gods and pray only to Him to send the rain and save them. But King Ahab, Queen Jezebel, and the people of Israel were very stubborn. They still prayed only to their false gods of wood and stone.

Do you think pieces of wood or stone can send rain?

God had His special ways to provide food for the very few people who still believed in Him, just as He had sent the crows to bring food to Elijah. Hadn't God sent the crows to feed Elijah?

After a while, the water in the brook where God sent Elijah dried up. God told Elijah to go to a town called Zarephath. "There I have ordered a widow to feed you." (A widow is a woman whose husband has died.) Certainly, she and her son needed God to provide them with what they needed.

Elijah obeyed God and went to Zarephath. At the gate of the town, Elijah saw the widow gathering wood. He called to her, "Please bring me a little water in a cup." As she was going to get it, he called to her again, "And please bring me a bite of bread."

"As the Lord your God lives," she answered, "I don't have anything baked; only a handful of flour in a jar and little oil in the jug. I'm gathering a few sticks. I will go and make some bread for myself and my boy so that we may eat it and then we will die." The widow was worried that she and her boy would die because their food would be all gone.

"Don't be afraid," Elijah told her. "Go and do as you said, but first make me a little cake of it, bring it to me, and after that prepare something for yourself and your boy. The Lord, the God of Israel, says this, 'The jar of flour will never get empty, and the jug will never run out of oil till the Lord sends rain on the land.'"

The widow did what Elijah told her, and so she, Elijah, and her family had food for a long while. It didn't matter how many times she took flour out of the jar, it never got empty, and it didn't matter how much

oil she poured out of the jug, it, too, was never empty. In this way, the Lord took care of Elijah, the widow, and her family, just as He had promised.

Later, the son of the widow became very sick and died. The widow told Elijah, "Leave me alone." She thought God was punishing her for her sins by killing the boy.

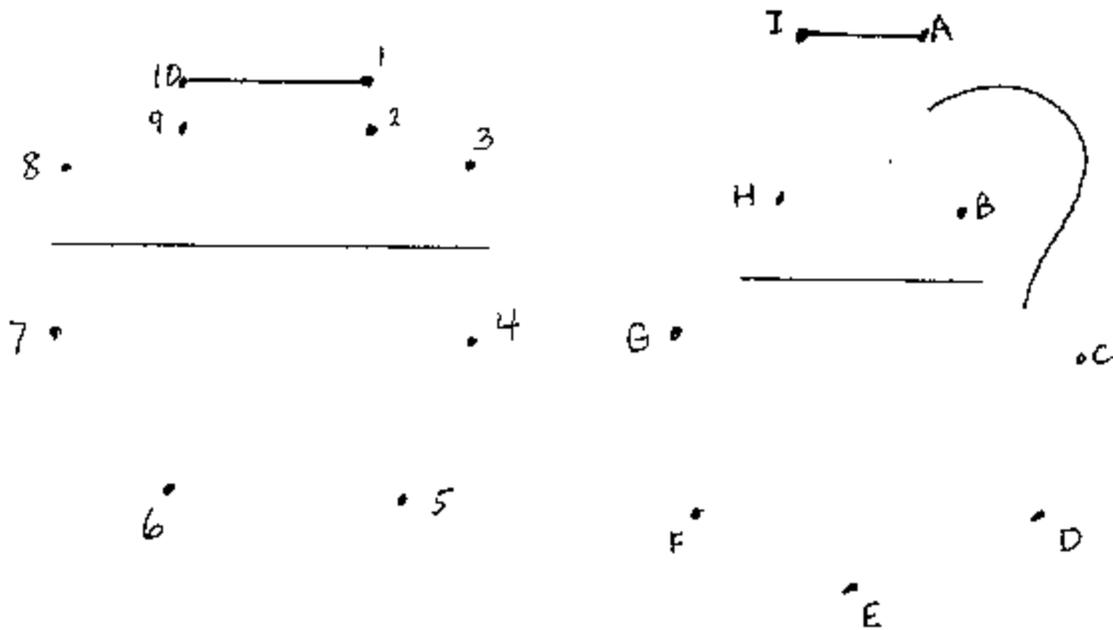
"Give me the boy," Elijah told her. Elijah took the dead boy and carried him to the room where he was staying and laid the dead boy on his bed. Elijah cried to the Lord in prayer, "Lord my God, why are you

bringing sadness to this widow I'm staying with by causing her boy to die?" Then he stretched himself out on the boy three times and prayed, "O Lord my God, please make this boy live again."

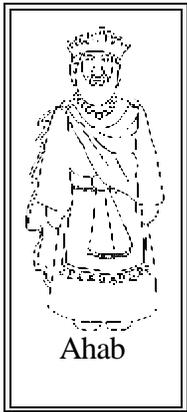
The Lord did what Elijah asked, and the boy became alive again! Elijah took the boy to his mother and said, "Look, your boy is alive."

"Now I believe," the woman told Elijah, "that you are a man of the true God, and the Lord's Word you speak is the truth."

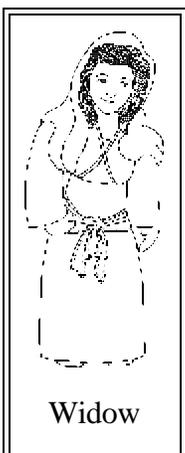
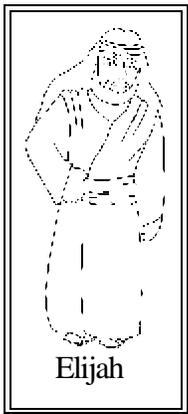
**Activity One** - Show how God provided for the widow, her family and Elijah. Connect the dots. Color the oil in the jug yellow.



**Activity Two** - Listen to the following sentences. Draw a line to the correct person the sentence is about. There will be more than one answer for some.



**GOD**



- I worshiped false gods
- I warned King Ahab there would be no rain.
- I sent no rain for 3 years.
- I sent the crows to feed Elijah.
- I told the widow to take care of Elijah
- I promised the widow that the flour and oil would not run out.
- I was sad when my son died.
- I prayed to God about the widow's boy.
- I raised the boy to life from death.
- I believed God's promises.

**We can trust God to provide all of our needs  
because He is all powerful.**

## Activity Three

- Plant some seeds to watch them grow over the next few weeks.

## Passages

Psalm 124:8 - Our help is in the name of the LORD, Who made heaven and earth.

Matthew 6:11 - Give us this day our daily bread.

## Hymn

TLH #644

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

TLH #648

I am Jesus' little lamb,  
Ever glad at heart I am;  
For my Shepherd gently guides me,  
Knows my need and well provides me,  
Loves me ev'ry day the same,  
Even calls me by my name.

## Prayer

Dear Father in heaven,  
You are so kind and good to us. You give us everything that we need. Thank You for all the blessings You give us. Please help us to use them wisely and to share these blessings with others. Amen.