

## Elijah: Channel of God's Power

# The Provision of God

### In This Series...

1. We are reminded that no matter how godly we may be, there are still times of growing and stretching in our faith. (Even Biblical giants have problems!)  
*"Elijah was a person just like us..."* - James 5:17
2. We will learn that God has a plan, a response, and a lesson for every situation that we face, and that obedience is the key to our continued spiritual growth.

### Scripture - 1 Kings 17:7-24

### The World's View of Power vs. the Power of God

*"The power of God is that ability and strength whereby He can bring to pass whatsoever He pleases, whatsoever His infinite wisdom may direct, and whatsoever the infinite purity of His will may resolve...."* — Charnock, 1628-1680

### Provisions in My Crisis

#### 1. The brook slowed to a mere trickle and then dried up.

*"Some time later the brook dried up because there was no rain in the land. <sup>8</sup> Then the word of the Lord came to him: <sup>9</sup> 'Go at once to Zarephath of Sidon and stay there. I have commanded a widow to supply you with food.' <sup>10</sup> So he went to Zarephath."* - 1 Kings 17:7-10

God didn't send Elijah to Zarephath because there wasn't water. He sent him to Zarephath because there was a widow he needed to meet.

*"...Some time later..."* The timing was to be a providential meeting.

Elijah may have thought he was in the penalty box, when he was really in the bullpen.



When your brook dries up don't stop trusting in God. Continue to walk in obedience.

#### 2. The widow was without food for herself and her son.

*"As surely as the Lord YOUR God lives," she replied, "I don't have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die."* - 1 Kings 17:12

Elijah dealt with her fear of starvation by issuing a strange command: "Bring me a small loaf first."

The power of first fruits.

The jar of flour and the jug of oil did not run dry.

She put God and others first.

*"Give us today our daily bread."* - Matthew 6:11

*"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you."* - Matthew 6:33

#### 3. The widow's son got sick and died.

*"Some time later the son of the woman who owned the house became ill. He grew worse and worse, and finally stopped breathing. <sup>18</sup> She said to Elijah, 'What do you have against me, man of God? Did you come to remind me of my sin and kill my son?'"* - 1 Kings 17:17,18

It was an illness that ultimately led to her son's death. It caused her to blame Elijah and his God.

Elijah responded with intercessory prayer.

Elijah prayed fervently and appealed to God's mercy.

Elijah made a definite request: Let this boy's life return to him.

Trust God with the impossible! Past victories give us confidence for the future.

### Lessons in the Midst of CRISIS:

- The safest place to be is where God told you to be!
- The safest thing to give is what God told you to give!
- The safest prayer to pray is the one God asks you to pray!
- As a result of my Christian walk, are people seeing God?

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He sent him to Zarephath because there was a widow he needed to meet.

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Elijah may have thought he was in the penalty box, when he was really in the \_\_\_\_\_.



When your brook dries up don't stop \_\_\_\_\_ in God.  
Continue to walk in obedience.

2. The widow was without \_\_\_\_\_ for herself and her son.

"As surely as the Lord YOUR God lives," she replied, "I don't have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die." - 1 Kings 17:12

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"Bring me a small loaf \_\_\_\_\_."

The principle of \_\_\_\_\_.

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- As a result of my Christian walk, are people \_\_\_\_\_?