



LESSON 6

REFERENCES: 1 KINGS 17:7-16; PROPHETS AND KINGS, PP. 129-131.

Miracle Oil

Paige sat on the porch, ready to bite into her last cookie. Her friend Julie came running over. Uh-oh. What should Paige do? When Elijah was hungry, someone shared with him.

E

lijah had been camping at the little brook for a long time. But the water no longer splashed merrily along. There had been no rain. And the water in the little brook was almost gone.



Memory Verse

“He is our God and we are . . . under his care.”

PSALM 95:7, NIV.

The Message

God uses others to love and care for us.

Elijah studied the clear blue sky. Not a rain cloud in sight. Elijah knew why. God’s special people were still praying to Baal for rain. God wanted them to understand that He was the one who sent rain—not an idol. It would not rain until God said so.

Suddenly God spoke to Elijah. “Go to the village of Zarephath,” He said. “A widow there will feed you.” (A widow is a woman whose husband has died.)

Elijah quickly started down the dusty road to Zarephath.

When Elijah reached the village gates, he saw a woman gathering small sticks. Elijah was hot and thirsty from his long, long walk. "Would you please bring me a cup of water?" he asked the woman. "And please bring me a little bread too."

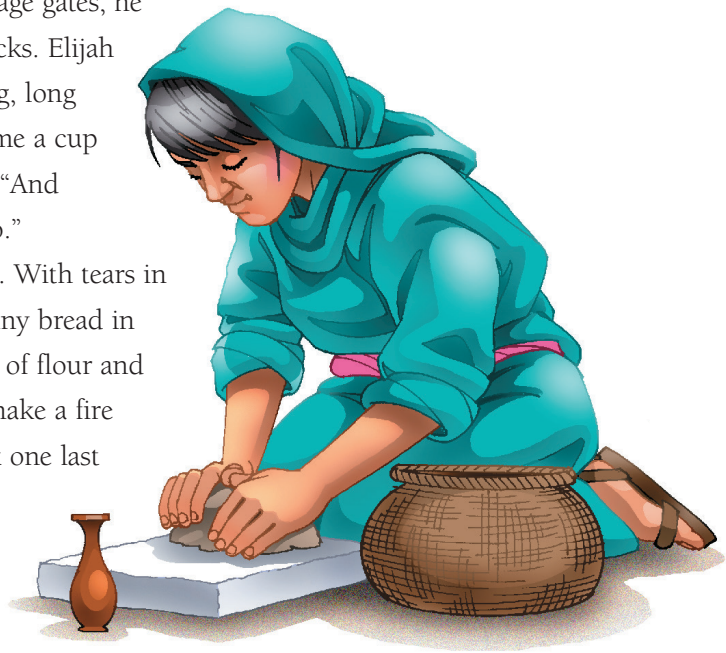
The woman turned to Elijah. With tears in her eyes she said, "I don't have any bread in my house. I have only a handful of flour and a little oil. I am going home to make a fire with these few sticks. I will cook one last meal for my son and me. Then we will die, because we will have nothing left to eat."

Elijah smiled at the woman. "Don't be afraid," he said. "Go ahead and cook the meal, but first make me a little loaf of bread. God promises that there will always be plenty of flour and oil in your containers, and you will not run out of food until He sends the rain again and new food begins to grow."

The widow believed the words of the Lord. So she did as Elijah asked. She went home and began to cook.

Elijah sat and sipped his water as the widow made a little loaf of bread for him. He watched as she measured the right amount of oil and flour. He saw her mix them together to make bread dough. Soon he could smell the bread as it slowly baked. What a treat it was to have good, fresh bread again.

For more than three years there was no rain, and nothing could grow. But the widow's flour and oil never ran out. God had provided food and water in the past. And He would provide it now for Elijah and for the kind widow and her son.



Do and Say

SABBATH

Read the lesson story and review the memory verse each day this week. Say: “He is our God”; then your child responds “and we are under his care.” Say “Psalm 95:7” together.

SUNDAY

Together, find and read 1 Kings 17:7-16, paraphrasing as necessary. Ask: Why did God tell Elijah to leave the brook? Why was the widow gathering sticks? What two things would the widow use to make bread?

Make or share some bread together.

MONDAY

Read the lesson story. Ask: Why do you think the widow did what Elijah asked? How do you think she felt as they were eating her last bit of food?

Encourage your child to share their thank-you card with the person they chose in Sabbath School. (Or help them make one for someone God uses to love and care for them.)

TUESDAY

Sing a sharing song and act it out with two toys. Ask: What would you do if you had only one toy? Who shared with Elijah? Thank Jesus that you have something to share.

WEDNESDAY

Ask your child to think of all the people God uses to love and care for them. Make a list and count the people. Thank Jesus for each one.

THURSDAY

Have your child help you make bread or muffins. Together, share the results with someone (neighbor, friend, etc.). Save some for tomorrow night.

FRIDAY

During worship tonight, read about the widow’s faith in *Prophets and Kings*, page 129 (second paragraph) and page 131 (first paragraph). Ask: Why didn’t the flour and oil run out?

Start a family prayer journal. Have each person draw a picture of a specific need; then pray together about each one. Leave a place to record answers to these prayers. Sing a prayer song; then thank God for taking care of your family.

Share the bread or muffins made yesterday with your family.

Say the memory verse together.

