

Lesson 3: Sharing

Today's Bible Story

Elijah was a faithful servant of God. He was a prophet called to speak God's Word. Sometimes, Elijah had to speak hard words to people; other times, his message brought comfort.

One day, God sent Elijah to warn a bad king named Ahab to change his evil ways. "As God lives," Elijah said to the king, "there shall be no rain or dew these next years, except by my word." After sharing this shocking message, Elijah left and hid by the brook Cherith, near the Jordan River, as God commanded. Each day, God sent ravens to bring Elijah bread and meat. The brook itself gave cool, clean water for him to drink. But after a while even the brook dried up, since there was no rain in the land.

Then, God told Elijah to travel to a place called Zarephath. When he arrived, Elijah saw a widow gathering sticks near the city gate, and he asked her for water. As she was going to get it, he asked her to bring him some bread, as well.

Looking at Elijah, the widow said, "All I have is a handful of flour in a jar and a tiny bit of oil in a jug. Even now, I'm just gathering sticks so that I can bake something for myself and my son before we die of hunger."

"Don't worry," Elijah answered her. "Go and bake my little cake, then make something for yourself and your son. For God has promised that neither the jar of flour nor the jug of oil shall be empty until the day that he sends rain."

The widow listened to Elijah and did as he said. Sure enough, both her jar of flour and her jug of oil stayed full! The widow and her household ate for many days — just as Elijah had said.



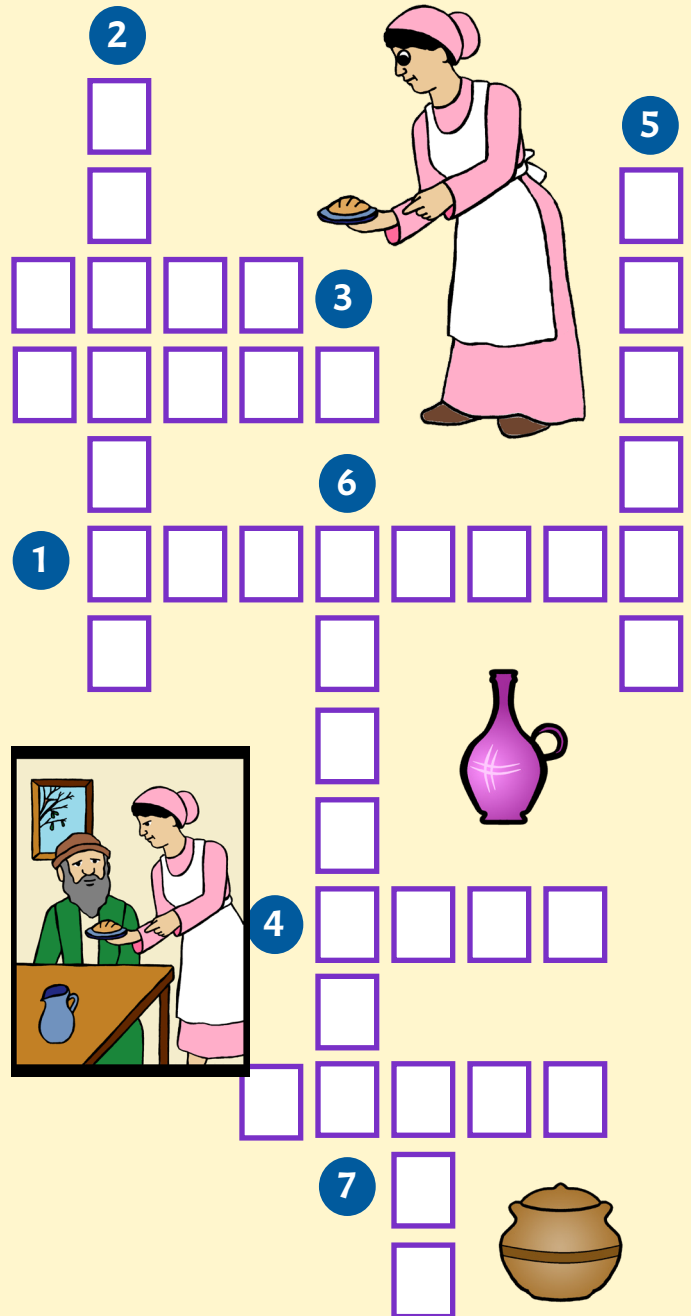
From 1 Kings 17:1-16

Bible Rhyme

Elijah was a prophet who
was faithful, and quite fearless, too.
So when a selfish king was bad,
Elijah warned that God was mad!
"Since you've shown God such disdain,"
Elijah said, "There'll be no rain."
When to a small town he was led,
he asked a widow for some bread.
She shared the little that she had.
Elijah spoke, and made her glad.
"God says your food will last and last,
full until this drought has passed!"

God filled the widow's jar with flour, and her jug with oil. Use a Bible to answer the questions below. With each question you answer, fill in the letter squares below to spell each word.

1. The prophet was known as Elijah the _____, because he was from Tishbe in Gilead. (1 Kings 17:1)
2. After speaking to the king, Elijah hid at a brook called _____. (1 Kings 17:3)
3. The ravens brought Elijah _____ and _____ to eat in the morning and the evening. (1 Kings 17:6)
4. God had commanded the widow at Zarephath to _____ Elijah. (1 Kings 17:9)
5. Elijah asked the widow for water and a _____ of bread. (1 Kings 17:11)
6. The widow told Elijah she had nothing baked, only a _____ of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. (1 Kings 17:12)
7. Telling the widow not to fear, Elijah said, "The jar of _____ shall not be spent, and the jug of _____ shall not be empty, until the day the Lord sends rain upon the earth." (1 Kings 17:14)



Who wrote the quote below from the Bible?

If the readiness is there, it is acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he does not have... As it is written, "Whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack." (2 Corinthians 8:12, 15) _____