

ELIJAH FED BY RAVENS

Scripture:
I Kings 17:1-16

Materials Needed:
Pictures

Memory Verse: *Philippians 4:19 And my God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.*

Objectives: As a result of this lesson, I want my student

To Know: After Elijah took God's message to Ahab, God provided physical safety, food, and water for Elijah at the brook Cherith, and even when the brook dried up, and the woman at Zarephath didn't have enough provisions, God met his needs by miraculously increasing her low supply of flour and oil.

To Realize: When one does what God is asking them to do, He will provide everything he needs, even when circumstances make it look impossible.

To Respond: by doing what God wants, and trusting Him to provide what they need.

Approach:

How many of you have a younger brother or sister? Can you remember when your mother brought them home from the hospital all wrapped up. . . . And **then** they got just a little bit older and made all sorts of googly faces! Let's say that your mother decided to go out for a few hours and she wanted you to take care of the baby. What would you have to do? What needs do babies have? (write on board). We have needs too; some of them are the same as babies; what are some other needs the (4th) graders have? (write on board) What can happen if our needs are not met? (Give examples of babies dying in hospitals without love and attention.) There was someone in the Bible who had needs too . . . look in the first verse of chapter 17 and tell me what his name was. (Elijah)

Food	clothes	cleaning	diapers	sleep	milk	love
	attention	friends	parents	food	water	safety
	sleep	love	exercise	money for school		
	money to live					

Outline of Passage:

Scripture: I. Elijah Takes God's Message
A. No rain
B. By God's Word

Lesson Development:

God gave Elijah a job to do, and he did it, but what problems might you

- II. God Provides for Elijah at the Brook of Cherith
- Scripture
- A. Tells him to hide
 - B. Provides through Brook
 - C. Provides through ravens
- III. God Provides through Widow of Zarephath
- Scripture
- A. The brook dries up
 - B. The widow doesn't have enough food
 - C. only a handful of flour
 - D. a little bit of oil
 - E. Provisions are multiplied
 - F. she makes food for Elijah
 - G. God promises to supply more

foresee?

What would Elijah need? (List on board.)

Time passed. The sun began to dry up the brook. If you were Elijah and you were doing what God wanted you to do, what would you be thinking as you saw your brook getting drier?

Why had he gone there in the first place? (he was doing God's work) Would God leave him there to starve? Look in verse 9 and tell me where God told him to go.

Had he come to the right place? I thought God was supposed to take care of him! Well...she did have a little bit of flour and oil. So Elijah asked her to get some food, but she only had enough for one more meal. Do you know what Elijah told her? Look in v. 13.

How could Elijah say that? This was the woman who was supposed to take care of him and she didn't have any provisions; and he said, "Fear not!"

Conclusion:

You mentioned some needs that (4th) graders have. And I can assure you that God wants to meet those needs. (Phil 2:13) I can promise you that He is able to meet those needs (Eph 3:20) (write "wants" and "able" on board). But God doesn't always do it. Why not? Think of all the other people in Israel who were also thirsty and hungry. Why did God meet Elijah's needs? He was doing what God wanted. God wants to meet our needs; he is able to meet our needs . . . * but we have a choice to make: are we going to do what God wants us to do? When we make that choice for Him we can be sure that God will meet our needs.

Boardwork:

ELIJAH FED BY RAVENS HELPS FOR THE TEACHER

Personal Application Questions:

1. When was the most recent time you did God's will without knowing where all the supplies for the job would come from?
2. Think about the condition of the bread and meat brought by the ravens. What lesson do you draw about what God provides for you?
3. What objections might Elijah have felt being taken care of by a widow from Zarephath?
4. Has God taken care of you in ways that have humbled you?

Application Questions to think through for your Students:

1. God takes care of the physical needs of your students primarily through their parents. What attitude do they have towards what He has provided for them? (Discontent? Thankfulness?)
2. What does God ask your students to do for which they need His provision?
3. What story can you share with your students about God's provision in your life?

Suggested Memory Verse:

Philippians 4:19 And my God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

Bonus Verse: *Proverbs 3:5,6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.*

Post-lesson Activity:

Worksheet for notebook. Puzzle on Phil. 4:19 with key question like: How did God supply Elijah's needs? What are some needs you have? What might keep God from supplying needs in your life?

Homework Ideas:

Make a list of needs on one side of the paper. As you go through the week write down how God provides for each need.

Example:

Food—through work of parents

Rest—home provided

Friendship—call from a special friend

Learning—teachers