

1 Kings 17

Verses 7-11

* Elijah has been told by God to go to Zarepath (outside of Israel) & a widow has been commanded to provide for him.

* We don't know the woman's name, but we do know she would have lost her husband.

* We also know they are in a famine

* We also know she has some sort of relationship w/ the Lord b/c he commanded her & she listened.

* At this point we don't know if she has family near by or if she was alone

* Women at this time who had lost ~~spouses~~ husbands were normally sent back to their next living male.

Note: something we don't know from this story is the fact that Elijah wasn't one to ask for help.

↳ So for him to ask shows his faith in God & also that he knew he needed help

Verses 12-16

* She says she does not really have anything & what she did have was being saved for her & her son as a last meal.

elijah & the

* Elijah says to her to not be afraid - very much like angels do when they ~~appear~~ come to people.

* She really had extreme faith to go & make something for a stranger before her son.

Reminder: this God ~~is~~ technically has no voice/relationship w/ her.

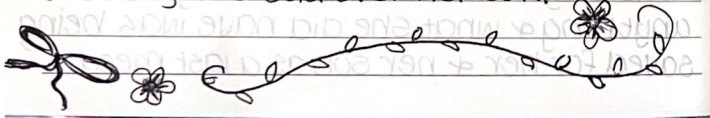
* So maybe she was so desperate that she put her faith in anything.

"* He had to go & ask her for water, if he hadn't have asked, then God couldn't have used ~~her~~ what she had. Maybe we just need to be willing to put pride aside & allow God to use what we have." Maddie M.

* Do we think from the way she speaks that she realized that the Lord was using her? Probably not - she seems to be coming more ~~from~~ from a place of desperation.

* Her son was probably younger so she was more of a caretaker.

* She showed a lot of trust b/c she made a stranger bread over her son.



widow

Verses 17-24

* The widow provides for him but then her son basically dies - she feels she is being punished

* Both are questioning God - why would he allow this after saving them?

note: this is 1st resurrection in the Bible

* God works in the waiting - not always in front of a crowd

* He does it & it shows the widow His power.

* We don't always understand the plan. He works in the shadows - He is working even when we don't understand.

-> what gets in the way of giving/receiving?

-> is it harder to ask for help or saying yes to help?

-> who has God sent into your life that provides for you / who are you providing for?