



Benjas (0-5 years)

Date: _____ Name: _____

Lesson: ELISHA AND THE WIDOW

Reference: 2Kings 4:1-7

Point: God graciously provides what is needed to give his people a hope and a future



Widow explains her problem to Elisha

Memory verse: Psalm 121:1-2

I lift up my eyes to the hills - where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. (NIV)



A widow was about to lose her two sons who were going to be taken as slaves. She could not pay the money a debtor owed.

The widow told Elisha her problem and that she only had a little oil in a jar. Elisha told her to collect many jars from her neighbors and fill them with oil from that little jar. The oil did not run out until all the jars were filled. It was a miracle!

Elisha told the widow to sell the oil, pay off the debt and keep the balance to live off in future. So the boys were saved, and the widow's future was taken care of.



Judges (6-7 years)

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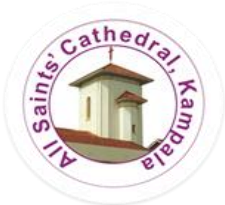


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Elisha told the widow to sell the oil, pay off the debt and keep the balance to live off in future. So the boys were saved, and the widow's future was taken care of.

Encouragement: Be encouraged in knowing that Jesus has paid the debt for our sin, giving us hope and a future.



Judeans (8-9 years)

Date: _____ Name: _____

Lesson: ELISHA AND THE WIDOW

Reference: 2Kings 4:1-7

Point: God graciously provides what is needed to give his people a hope and a future

Read the full story from 2Kings 4:1-7

Elisha miraculously made one small jar of oil fill many jars so that a widow could pay off her debts and keep her sons from being taken away as slaves.

The widow had two problems, one that was immediate – she needed to pay off a debt, and one that was long term – her sons were going to be taken as slaves, which meant she would have no one to take care of her in old age. In Old Testament times, a woman on her own, with no one to take care of her would end up very poor and in a terrible situation.

Through Elisha, God helped the widow with both problems; she sold the oil and paid off the immediate debt, and she got extra that she could live off in future; she also kept her sons who could take care of her in old age. So her immediate problem was solved and her future was secured. God generously provided for her what was needed to give her hope and a future. In the same way, God graciously provides what is needed to give his people a hope and a future.

This also shows how God cares and is willing to intervene in people's ordinary lives. He intervened in the life of this family and they were helped. Do not hesitate to turn to him for help.

The widow, who had a little oil, was told to collect many jars and fill them with the oil. This might not have made sense at the time, but she trusted and obeyed the words of the Lord's prophet and she was saved. Today we find God's words in the Bible. How do you respond to them?

Just as Elisha helped that widow pay her debt and secure her future, Jesus has achieved the same for us today. By his death and resurrection, Jesus has dealt with the debt of our sin and secured a future hope for all who trust in

him. Elisha was able to help the widow in this life, but Jesus can help us forever.

The widow had a debt to pay and she could not pay it on her own. In the same way, we have a debt of sin and the punishment we deserve. We cannot pay this debt on our own. God sent Jesus to pay our debt by dying on the cross for us – when we trust in him we can be forgiven, we become friends with God and we can share in the hope that one day we will be raised to eternal life with Jesus in heaven.

Think: Have you trusted Jesus to pay your debt for sin? Can you call yourself a friend of God?



What was the woman's problem? (4:1-2) Tick all the correct answers.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Her husband was dead | <input type="checkbox"/> She didn't have enough sons |
| <input type="checkbox"/> She was very poor | <input type="checkbox"/> Her sons would be taken as slaves |

What did the woman have? (4:2) One s _ _ _ jar of olive o _ _ .

What did Elisha tell her to do? (4:3-4, 7)

Number the sentences from 1 to 4 to put them in the correct order.

- ___ Sell the oil to pay off her debts.
- ___ Go inside and shut the door behind her and her sons.
- ___ Pour the oil into each of the jars to fill them.
- ___ Ask her neighbours for lots of empty jars.

When did the oil run out? (4:6) Cross out the wrong answers.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| When the jar of oil was empty | When there were no more empty jars |
| When she thought she had enough | When Elisha told it to stop |

Memory verse: Psalm 121:1-2

I lift up my eyes to the hills – where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

Encouragement: Be encouraged in the knowledge that Jesus has paid the debt for our sin, giving us hope and a future.

Bible reading for the week: 2Kings chapter 3 and 4



Bible Class (10yrs & above)

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How has God provided for us to give us hope and a future?

Memory verse: Psalm 121:1-2

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