



God Provides: Lessons from the Widow of Zarephath



Explore God's provision and faithfulness through the story of the Widow of Zarephath, discovering trust amid scarcity and hope in famine.

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Introduction

Welcome to this 7-day Bible study plan focusing on God's miraculous provision through the story of the Widow of Zarephath, as recorded in 1 Kings 17. During a devastating famine, God sent the prophet Elijah to a widow who, despite her dire circumstances, demonstrated powerful faith. This study invites you to journey alongside Elijah and the widow to see how God provides even in the most desperate times.

Our world today, much like ancient times, faces uncertainties and challenges that test our faith and trust in God's provision. The account of the widow reminds us that God's grace is often found in unexpected places and moments. When the widow was ready to give up, God multiplied her resources in a miraculous way. This encourages us to rely not on our limited resources but on God's infinite power and faithfulness.

Throughout this study, you'll engage with Scripture passages, reflective questions, and prayers that aim to deepen your understanding of God's sustaining hand. You'll explore themes such as obedience, trust, generosity, and God's timing. Importantly, you'll see that God provides not only physical sustenance but also spiritual encouragement. Let this story inspire you to lean into God's promises and discover hope, even in seasons of famine.

May this time of study transform your perspective on challenges and inspire you to witness God's provision in your daily life. As you read, meditate, and pray, may your faith be strengthened and your heart opened to the abundant



blessings God promises to those who trust Him wholeheartedly. **Let's start this journey together—discovering how God provides in the midst of scarcity and how He invites us to participate in His work of provision and restoration.**





Day 1: God's Provision Begins



Day 1:  God's Provision Begins

Your Verse

1 Kings 17:7-8 - 'Some time later the brook dried up because there had been no rain in the land.'

Supporting Scriptures

- *Psalm 23:1 - 'The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.'*
- *Philippians 4:19 - 'And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.'*



Day 1:  God's Provision Begins

Devotional: Trust God When Your Resources Run Dry

The story of the Widow of Zarephath begins in a time of severe drought and famine. Elijah, the prophet, was led by God to a place of scarcity—a dried-up brook where no water remained. This sets the stage for us to understand how God often leads us through seasons where resources appear exhausted. In moments when natural provisions fail, God's supernatural provision takes center stage. We learn here that God is not limited by the scarcity around us. He prepares a divine provision through unexpected channels.

When facing your own droughts—whether of physical needs, emotional strength, or spiritual encouragement—remember this passage. God's provision may come in surprising ways. Trust that even when circumstances are bleak, God's hand is working behind the scenes.

Take heart that God is your shepherd who will make sure you don't lack what you need. Your role is to remain attentive and obedient, just as Elijah was, watching for God's provision through ordinary and extraordinary means.



Day 1:  God's Provision Begins

Reflect and Apply

1. How do you typically respond to periods of scarcity or drought in your life?

2. What steps can you take to remain attentive to God's provision even when it is not immediately visible?

3. In what ways can remembering God's past faithfulness help you trust Him in current challenges?



Day 1:  God's Provision Begins

Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a time when you felt like your resources or strength were depleted. How did God provide for you then?





2. List areas in your life where you currently need God's provision.

3. Reflect on how you can practice trusting God daily even when circumstances seem uncertain.



Day 1:  God's Provision Begins

Prayer for Today

Lord, thank You for being the God who provides in every season. When I face times of drought and scarcity, help me to trust in Your unfailing provision. Open my eyes to see Your hand at work in my life, even when resources seem to run dry. *Strengthen my faith to rely not on what I see but on Your promises. Help me to remain obedient and patient as I wait for Your divine provision. Thank You for being my Shepherd who cares for all my needs. In Jesus' name, Amen.*    





Day 2: ☒ The Widow's Obedience



Day 2: ☒ The Widow's Obedience

Your Verse

1 Kings 17:9-12 - 'Go to Zarephath and stay there. I have directed a widow there to supply you with food.'

Supporting Scriptures

- *Hebrews 11:6 - 'And without faith it is impossible to please God.'*
- *James 2:17 - 'Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.'*



Devotional: Obedience in the Midst of Scarcity

God's instruction to Elijah was precise—go to Zarephath and find the widow who would provide for him. For the widow, this command meant a radical act of hospitality and obedience, despite her own scarcity. She was facing famine herself, likely with just enough food to survive. Yet, when Elijah asked for bread and water, she obeyed and shared what little she had. This obedience in the face of lack is a powerful testimony of faith.

Her action reveals a heart willing to trust God's promise through obedience rather than risk assessment based on visible circumstances. Faith is not mere belief but trust expressed through action, even when conditions seem impossible.

Reflect on how obedience often requires courage and trust that God will meet us where we step out. The widow's story challenges us to act in faith, giving generously, even when resources are limited. God honors that faith with provision and blessing beyond imagination.



Day 2: ☒ The Widow's Obedience

Reflect and Apply

1. What fears or doubts arise when you consider obeying God's call in difficult situations?

2. How can you mirror the widow's example of obedience despite uncertain outcomes?

3. What does your current obedience look like in the face of limited resources?



Day 2: ☒ The Widow's Obedience

Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a time you obeyed God even when it was difficult. What happened?

2. Identify any areas in your life where God might be calling you to obedience today.

3. Consider ways you can practice faith through small acts of obedience this week.



Day 2: ☒ The Widow's Obedience

Prayer for Today

Father, thank You for showing me the power of obedience through the widow's example. Help me to trust You enough to obey Your guidance, even when it requires sacrifice and faith. *Give me courage to act according to Your word, confident that You will provide and sustain me. Teach me to listen closely and walk closely with You, obeying with a joyful heart.* In Jesus' name I pray, Amen. 🙏🕊️🍞💧





Day 3: 📖 Miraculous Multiplication



Day 3: 📖 Miraculous Multiplication

Your Verse

1 Kings 17:13-16 - 'The jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry... the Lord was providing for Elijah and the widow.'

Supporting Scriptures

- *Exodus 16:16 - 'Gather as much as each of you needs...'*
- *Matthew 14:20 - 'They all ate and were satisfied.'*



Day 3: 📖 Miraculous Multiplication

Devotional: God Multiplies Our Small Offerings

One of the most striking aspects of this story is God's miracle of multiplication. The little flour and oil the widow had did not run out during the entire famine—defying natural expectation. This divine provision encourages us to look beyond the limits of what we can see and trust in God's unlimited supply. God honors faith and obedience with supernatural provision that sustains.

In your own life, ask God to multiply your resources, time, or talents as you commit them in faith to His service. Remember that God delights in taking small offerings and making them abundantly enough to meet many needs.

Trusting God to multiply what seems insufficient challenges a mindset of scarcity and invites a perspective of abundance rooted in His power. Receive the encouragement that no matter how little you start with, God can use it for great purposes.



Day 3: 🟡 Miraculous Multiplication

Reflect and Apply

1. Where do you need God to multiply your resources or efforts today?

2. How does the miracle of the jar and jug challenge your mindset about scarcity?

3. What practical steps can you take to offer what little you have in faith?



Day 3: 📖 Miraculous Multiplication

Journaling Prompts

1. Describe a time when God provided more than you expected through your faithfulness.

2. List 'small offerings' in your life that you might commit to God's use.

3. Reflect on how trusting God for multiplication affects your generosity.



Day 3: 📖 Miraculous Multiplication

Prayer for Today

Lord, You are the God of miracles, able to multiply what seems scarce. Help me to trust Your power to provide beyond my understanding and to use my small offerings for Your glory. *Increase my faith to rely not on limited resources, but on Your limitless provision. May my heart be joyful in giving and trusting Your abundant grace.* In Jesus' name, Amen. 🙏 ✨ 🍷 🥄





Day 4: ❤️ Compassion in Action



Day 4: ❤️ Compassion in Action

Your Verse

1 Kings 17:10-12 - 'Bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink... Make a small loaf of bread for me from what you have.'

Supporting Scriptures

- *Proverbs 19:17 - 'Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord.'*
- *Luke 6:38 - 'Give, and it will be given to you.'*



Day 4: ❤️ Compassion in Action

Devotional: Faith Expressed Through Compassion

The widow's choice to show compassion by feeding a stranger—even when resources were low—reflects a heart aligned with God's love and generosity. Compassion isn't just feeling sorry but acting sacrificially for the well-being of others. The widow's action reminds us that God often uses our willingness to give, no matter how little, to demonstrate His love in the world.

When we act with compassion, we become conduits of God's provision and grace. This challenges us to stretch beyond comfort zones and share even when it's difficult.

In practicing compassion, remember that God sees and blesses the heart behind your action. Your willingness to give in faith becomes a testimony of God's sustaining power and love to those around you.



Reflect and Apply

1. How do you feel God is calling you to show compassion in your current context?

2. What fears or hesitations do you have about giving when resources feel limited?

3. How does practicing compassion affect your faith and relationship with God?



Journaling Prompts

1. Recall someone who showed you compassion when you needed it most.

2. Identify practical ways to demonstrate compassion this week.

3. Reflect on how giving in faith has impacted your spiritual growth.



Day 4: ❤️ Compassion in Action

Prayer for Today

Father, teach me to have a compassionate heart like the widow's—willing to share even in scarcity. Help me to see the needs around me and respond with generosity and love. *May my actions reflect Your kindness and bring hope to others. Empower me to trust Your provision as I give freely in faith.* In Jesus' name, Amen. 🙏❤️💛🌟





Day 5: 🕒 Trusting God's Timing



Day 5: ⌚ Trusting God's Timing

Your Verse

1 Kings 17:14 - 'For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: "The jar of flour will not be used up..."'

Supporting Scriptures

- *Ecclesiastes 3:1 - 'There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.'*
- *Isaiah 40:31 - 'Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.'*



Day 5: ⌚ Trusting God's Timing

Devotional: Rest in God's Perfect Timing

God's promise that the flour and oil would not run out highlights the importance of trusting His timing and provision, not just the outcome. Often, we grow impatient or anxious while waiting for God to act. Yet the widow's story illustrates that waiting with faith invites God's miraculous intervention right on time.

Trusting God's timing means surrendering control and believing He knows exactly when and how to provide. It moves us away from self-sufficiency into full dependence on God's wisdom and care.

Let this truth encourage you to rest in God's timing, even when the wait feels long or uncertain. His provision is reliable and perfectly timed to meet your needs.



Reflect and Apply

1. In what areas of your life do you find it hardest to wait on God's timing?

2. How can you cultivate patience and trust during seasons of waiting?

3. What has God taught you about His timing through past experiences?



Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a time God's timing surprised you with a blessing.

2. List things you can do to remain hopeful while waiting for God's provision.

3. Reflect on scriptures that encourage you to trust in God's timing.



Day 5: ⌚ Trusting God's Timing

Prayer for Today

Lord, help me to trust Your perfect timing in providing for my needs. In moments of waiting, grant me patience and peace, knowing You are faithful to fulfill Your promises. *Renew my strength as I hope in You, and help me to surrender control with confidence in Your plans.* In Jesus' name, Amen. 🙏⌚





Day 6: ✨ God's Faithfulness Revealed



Day 6: ✨ God's Faithfulness Revealed

Your Verse

1 Kings 17:17-24 - 'Elijah called on the Lord to bring the widow's son back to life.'

Supporting Scriptures

- *Lamentations 3:22-23 - 'Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail.'*
- *2 Timothy 2:13 - 'If we are faithless, He remains faithful.'*



Day 6: ✨ God's Faithfulness Revealed

Devotional: God Brings Restoration and Life

Beyond providing food and water, God revealed His faithfulness through restoring life to the widow's son. This extraordinary miracle underscores that God's provision extends beyond material needs to renewal and restoration. When faith is tested by loss or tragedy, God's presence remains steadfast, offering hope and new beginnings.

The faith of Elijah and the widow in responding to God's call demonstrates trust that God's power is greater than any circumstance, including death.

This story invites us to cling to God's faithfulness a step further—believing that He can revive what seems lost or impossible in our own lives. His compassionate power brings restoration beyond what we can imagine.



Day 6: ✨ God's Faithfulness Revealed

Reflect and Apply

1. How have you experienced God's faithfulness during difficult times?

2. What areas of your life need God's restoration right now?

3. How can the widow's story deepen your trust in God's power over impossible situations?



Day 6: ✨ God's Faithfulness Revealed

Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a time God restored something important to you.

2. Identify areas in your life asking God for renewal.

3. Reflect on ways to strengthen your faith in God's ongoing faithfulness.



Day 6: ✨ God's Faithfulness Revealed

Prayer for Today

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your unwavering faithfulness and power to restore life and hope. Even when circumstances look hopeless, help me to trust that You are at work, bringing renewal and healing. *Strengthen my faith to believe in Your miracles and to rest in Your compassionate care throughout every challenge.* In Jesus' name, Amen. 🙏🏻 🌈 💖 🌱





Day 7: 🙏 Living by Faith, Sharing Provision



Day 7: 🙏 Living by Faith, Sharing Provision

Your Verse

2 Corinthians 9:6-8 - 'God loves a cheerful giver.'

Supporting Scriptures

- *Acts 20:35 - 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'*
- *Matthew 25:35 - 'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat.'*



Day 7: 🙏 Living by Faith, Sharing Provision

Devotional: Faith Leads to Generous Living and Blessing

The story of the widow teaches us not only about receiving God's provision but also about the blessing and responsibility to share generously. Faith invites us to live generously, trusting God to supply all our needs so we can be a blessing to others. Cheerfulness in giving reflects confidence in God's abundance, not a fear of loss.

As you conclude this study, consider how you can live out this biblical principle by giving joyfully and sharing the provision God entrusts to you. Loving others through tangible acts of kindness continues the legacy of the widow and Elijah's story in our world today.

May this inspire you to walk daily by faith, knowing God's provision will sustain you and those you bless. Living by faith is a lifestyle—one of trust, obedience, compassion, and generous giving.



Reflect and Apply

1. What does living by faith look like in your everyday actions?

2. How can you cultivate a joyful and generous heart?

3. In what ways can your generosity reflect God's love to others?



Journaling Prompts

1. Write about how you've experienced joy in giving.

2. Plan practical ways to share God's provision with those in need.

3. Reflect on how faith shapes your attitude toward resources and generosity.



Day 7: 🙏 Living by Faith, Sharing Provision

Prayer for Today

Lord, thank You for teaching me through the widow's story to live by faith and give generously. Help me to trust Your provision fully and to share joyfully with others. *May my life be a reflection of Your abundant love, and may I be used as a blessing to bring hope and provision to those around me.* In Jesus' name, Amen. 🙏📦❤️🌿





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