

May 11, 2025



## Sermon Notes

**1 Kings 17:8–16 (ESV)** — **8** Then the word of the Lord came to him, **9** “Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” **10** So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.” **11** And as she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” **12** And she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. And now I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die.” **13** And Elijah said to her, “Do not fear; go and do as you have said. But first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. **14** For thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, ‘The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the Lord sends rain upon the earth.’ ” **15** And she went and did as Elijah said. And she and he and her household ate for many days. **16** The jar of flour was not spent, neither did the jug of oil become empty, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

**(Answer key located on back page)**

## FOUR ENCOURAGING TRUTHS FOR MOTHERS

### 1. DIVINELY DESIGNED: God Picks Special Moms

**(1 Kings 17:8-9)**

- God deliberately selects \_\_\_\_\_ mothers for specific purposes.
- Your perceived inadequacies are opportunities for God's \_\_\_\_\_ to be displayed.

### 2. REMARKABLY RESOURCEFUL: Making a Lot from a Little (1 Kings 17:10-12)

The widow was gathering \_\_\_\_\_ - not logs or firewood.

Mothers transform what seems insufficient into what your family needs:

- Limited \_\_\_\_\_ becomes quality moments
- Simple ingredients become nourishing \_\_\_\_\_
- Ordinary moments become cherished \_\_\_\_\_

To gather resources when they seem absent, you must bend down in \_\_\_\_\_.

### 3. SACRIFICIALLY SERVING: Giving When It's Hard (1 Kings 17:13-14)

Real sacrificial service isn't about giving from our \_\_\_\_\_ - it's about giving away what we desperately \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves.

The S.E.R.V.E. method:

- S: \_\_\_\_\_ your resources completely to God
- E: \_\_\_\_\_ God's supernatural provision
- R: \_\_\_\_\_ to needs before analyzing what's left
- V: \_\_\_\_\_ faith over fear in your decisions
- E: \_\_\_\_\_ the "first" principle

### 4. FAITHFULLY FEARLESS: Trusting God First (1 Kings 17:15-16)

This mother acted in faith \_\_\_\_\_ seeing any evidence of God's provision.

God often asks us to take the \_\_\_\_\_ step before we see how He's going to provide.

When you choose to trust God:

- Your perspective shifts from \_\_\_\_\_ to life
- Your focus moves from \_\_\_\_\_ to confidence
- Your "not enough" becomes "more than \_\_\_\_\_"

**PERSONAL REFLECTION:**

What area of motherhood (or life) do I currently feel is "not enough"?

How is God inviting me to trust Him in this area?

**COMMITMENT:**

This week I will take one step of obedience by:

**KEY VERSE TO REMEMBER:**

"And she went and did as Elijah said. And she and he and her household ate for many days. The jar of flour was not spent, neither did the jug of oil become empty, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah." - 1 Kings 17:15-16

**1. NEXT STEPS:**

Try the "What Remains Challenge": Look at one area where you feel you don't have enough and commit to using that resource intentionally.

2. Apply the S.E.R.V.E. method to one area of sacrifice in your life this week.
3. Share this message with someone who needs encouragement today.

## Answer Key

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1. DIVINELY DESIGNED</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• specific</li><li>• strength</li></ul> <b>2. REMARKABLY RESOURCEFUL</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• sticks</li><li>• time</li><li>• meals</li><li>• memories</li><li>• prayer</li></ul> | <b>3. SACRIFICIALLY SERVING</b><br>Extra   need   Surrender<br>Expect   Respond   Value<br>Embrace<br><br><b>4. FAITHFULLY FEARLESS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• before</li><li>• first</li><li>• death</li><li>• panic</li><li>• enough</li></ul> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### The Good News

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, (Romans 5:1)

### The Bad News

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (Romans 3:23)

### The Ugly News

For the wages of sin is death, ... (Romans 6:23a)

### The Great News

... but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
(Romans 6:23a )

### Guess What?

You can become a Christian right now and experience salvation and the gift of eternal life through God's Son the Lord Jesus Christ! Simply Pray this Prayer Right Now! **"God thank you for Jesus Christ who died on the cross for my sins. Thank you for receiving what Jesus did for me on the cross as payment for my sins. Please forgive me for my sins. Right now I accept Jesus into my heart and ask that he become my Savior and Lord! Amen!"**

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. (Romans 10:9–10)

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