Elijah and the Widow of Zarephath

1 Kings 17:8–16

Sharing is often easy when we have a lot of something and hard when we only have a little. For example, if you have fifty candy bars and a friend asks you for one, you'd probably share. But if you had only one and someone asked for most of it, you'd probably want to keep it for yourself, or maybe, if you're feeling nice, give them a small piece.

Elijah asked for most of what the widow had left. Even if Elijah didn't eat any of it, the widow and her son would soon die of starvation. Yet, when Elijah told her that God would provide, she trusted God's promise. She baked bread for Elijah, and, miraculously, her bread-making supplies lasted and lasted and lasted, feeding them all for a long time.

There are times when God gives a lot to us, and we're overwhelmed with the gifts and blessings we receive from Him. There are other times when He gives us just what we need. We might be tempted to think that God isn't giving us enough and that He should give us more than what we have. We can trust in God's promises to care for us and our families. We see how He cared for His people in Bible times. He will care for you too.

God is the giver of all good gifts. He gives us food and drink and clothes and families. Most important, He gave His Son, Jesus, to die for us. Through Jesus, we receive forgiveness, eternal life, and every good gift God has to give.

Father, how wonderfully You provide for us!
Bless us as we share Your gifts with others.
In Jesus' name. Amen.

Family Talk

God provided for Elijah, the widow, and her son through a miracle. In our communities, God often uses generous Christians to provide for those who don't have enough to eat. Discuss how you can help God provide for hungry people in your area. Make plans as a family to collect food for a pantry, assemble give-away bags for people in need, or work as volunteers at a shelter serving food.

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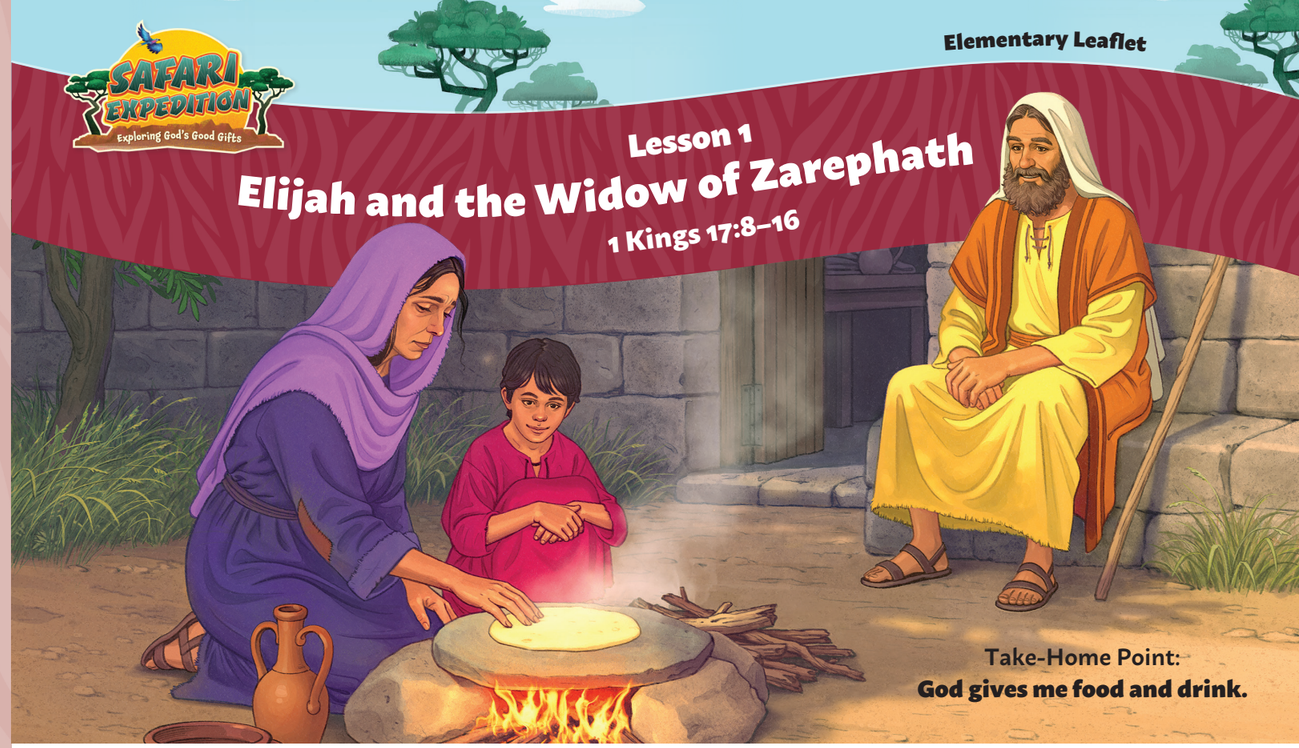
SAFARI EXPEDITION
Exploring God's Good Gifts

Elementary Leaflet

Lesson 1

Elijah and the Widow of Zarephath

1 Kings 17:8–16



Take-Home Point:
God gives me food and drink.

Check out today's Family Talk on the back.

Talk It Over:

Elijah and the Widow of Zarephath

Open your Bible to **1 Kings 17** and **Psalm 145**. Answer these questions with your Team or family.

Where did God send Elijah to get food?

See **1 Kings 17:8–9**.

What did the widow say when Elijah asked her to bring him some bread?

See **1 Kings 17:12**.

What promise of God did Elijah give to the widow?

See **1 Kings 17:14**.

How did God provide food for Elijah, the widow, and her family?

See **1 Kings 17:16**.

Who do we look to for food and drink?

See **Psalm 145:15**.

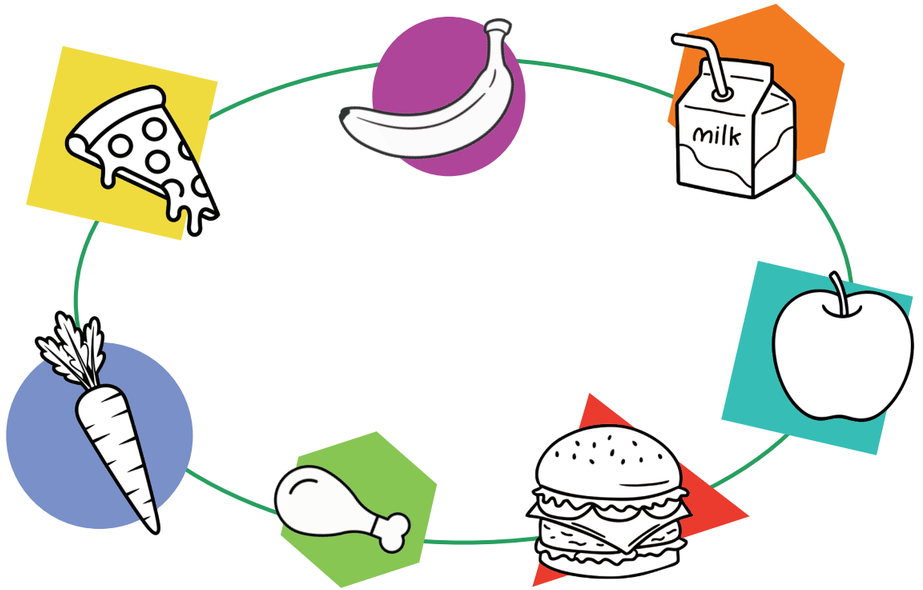
Why Zarephath?

God told Elijah to go to Zarephath, a town that was north of Israel on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea, between the cities of Tyre and Sidon. God provided food and water for Elijah through a widow from Zarephath, a foreigner, and He provided for her and her household as well. Centuries later, Jesus healed the daughter of a woman from the region of Tyre and Sidon (Matthew 15:21–28), and He recalled the example of the widow of Zarephath when He preached in Nazareth (Luke 4:16–30), demonstrating that God's love and care is for people of every nation.

The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food in due season. Psalm 145:15

Put It on Paper: Thank You, God, for Food!

God gives us so many kinds of food to eat! Color all the foods you enjoy. Then draw your favorite food in the middle. God gives good gifts!



Pray This Prayer:

Dear heavenly Father, thank You for providing me with food and drink to keep me healthy and strong. Forgive me when I want more than I have. Help me always look to You for all that I need. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.