

Qualities of a Godly Mother

1 Kings 17:8-16

"I don't have any bread - only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it - and die." 1 Kings 17:12

Main Point: Godly mothers are women of faith and servanthood who provide for their loved ones

Introduction: Use the following questions to introduce the topic of discussion -

Share a memory you have of your mother. What was one way she provided for your family?

How did your mother influence your life and faith? How do you see her in who you are today?

Every child needs to know the love of their mother. Elijah is led on a mission from God to meet a mother who demonstrated her love in the way she cared for her son and the prophet. The qualities she put on display gave evidence that she was a godly mother. Her example can help us train up and lead our children to know Christ today.

Read 1 Kings 17:8-16. A godly mother displays three qualities:

1) **SHE'S A SERVANT.** Refer back to 1 Kings 17:8-10.

What did Elijah find the woman doing? What was her plan?

This mother was serving her son by using the last of what she had to feed him. When has your mother or someone else served you in a radical way? What kind of effect did it have on your life?

Read **Ephesians 6:7**. Does serving people come easy to you? Why or why not? How would adopting the attitude in this verse change the way you think about serving others?

2) **SHE PROVIDES.** Read 1 Kings 17:11-12.

What did the widow plan to provide for her son? Why did she hesitate at Elijah's request?

When have you hesitated to provide for the needs of people around you? What fruit did you see in their life and yours when you chose to give?

Provisions don't always come in physical packages. What are some freebies we can provide as mothers, fathers, and generally decent human beings?

What does **1 Timothy 5:8** say about providing? How have you seen this sad truth played out in life?

Read **Genesis 22:8**. How did Abraham trust God just as this widow trusted Him? How does this change your perspective on all that has been provided in your life? Was there someone who trusted in and prayed for God's provision in your life?

3) **SHE IS A WOMAN OF FAITH.** Read **1 Kings 17:13-16**.

How did the widow display her faith? What do you think was going through her mind as she baked the first loaf for Elijah?

What areas of your life do you struggle to release to God in faith?

Read **1 Peter 1:3-9**. How does this passage apply to the widow's faith? What reward did she have for her faith and how does this encourage you today?

The writer of Hebrews most likely alludes to the widow of Zarephath in **Heb. 11:33** as he lists those of great faith. Continue in the story to see how the widow's faith is tested yet again in **1 Kings 17:17-24** and discuss what kind of faith legacy you'd like to leave.

Apply It:

Mother's have the chance to leave a lasting legacy of faith in Christ, instill a servant's heart, and a drive to provide for others. But it doesn't matter what your role in this life is, if you have labeled yourself Christian, we should all be doing the same. What steps can you take this week to water those seeds in your life?

Pray:

Lord, thank you for our mother's and all of those who mentored and influenced us in life to be a better follower of Christ. Use each of us in the room to meet the needs of our families and those who present opportunities to show the love of Christ. Help us to honor you by honoring our mothers. Let your love be on display in our lives and may our faith bring life to those who are dead in Christ.

Coming up at VillageChurch:

May 21: VillageOpen Golf Tournament: Help raise money for students to attend camp

May 27: Graduate Recognition: Send pictures to james@blythewoodvillage.com