

A Lesson about Provision

Read 1 Kings 17: 1-16

Introduction

Have you ever worried about having enough? Have you ever wondered whether God will provide? Will you be able to pay your bills, feed your family, keep your job and/or maintain your health?

The Bible promises that God will supply all of our needs (Philippians 4:19), and the story of Elijah gives us a compelling picture of provision. God used unlikely means to provide for Elijah, and also for a widow who was nearly at the end of her rope.

When you need God's provision, don't lock yourself into what you think should be the method. When God dries up a situation where He has previously provided, it means that He is moving you on to a new scenario of provision. God never stays locked in to one way of provision.

Just as God provided for Elijah, He will provide for you. He may do it in ways that seem strange. He may move you to a new place or position in order to provide. But no matter what means of provision God uses, the truth is, He sees you and wants to care for you. He is generous, kind, and fully able to meet your needs. Will you trust His provision?

Getting Started

1. What one point resonated with you from this morning's sermon?
2. What was the cause of the famine in the land?
3. God's plan to have ravens (an unclean bird to Jewish people) feed Elijah probably seemed strange to a Jewish prophet. Why do you think God used this plan?

Let's Get Personal

1. Imagine yourself as the widow in the story. Have you ever felt desperation the way she did? What happened?
2. If you'd been that widow, how would you have responded to Elijah's request? Why do you think she responded as she did?
3. Tell about a time God provided for you in a strange or unexpected way. What did you learn?
4. Where is God "moving you on to a new scenario"?

Take the Next Step

1. This week, how will you nurture your connection with God? Will you trust Him as Elijah did, as the widow did? Can you commit to spending time in daily prayer or study of God's word?

Renew Your Mind

You will drink from the brook, and I have directed the ravens to supply you with food there. 1 Kings 17:4
