TRACK ONE

Family Study

For parents, grandparents, and kids of every age. Watch together, read the story, talk, play, and pray.



"The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening..." (1 Kings 17:6, WEB)

The Story, Simply Told

Part One of the Elijah Series, retold from 1 Kings 17. Quoted words are paraphrased for children. In this story a boy stops breathing and God gives him his life back (17:17-23).

Our last story took place in Persia, in Queen Esther's day. This one happened centuries earlier, in the northern kingdom of Israel. King Ahab did more evil than all the kings before him. He married Jezebel, a Phoenician princess, and built a temple for the false god Baal, who people believed sent the rain.

Then God's prophet Elijah told the king, "As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, there will be no dew or rain these years unless I say so." God sent Elijah to hide by the brook Cherith. Every morning and evening, ravens brought him bread and meat. But with no rain, the brook dried up.

So God sent Elijah to Zarephath in Sidon, Jezebel's home country. At the town gate a widow was gathering sticks. Elijah asked her for water and some bread. She said, "I have only a handful of flour and a little oil. I am making one last meal for my son and me, and then we will die." Elijah said, "Don't be afraid. Make me a little cake first, then make some for you and your son. God says your flour and oil will not run out until He sends rain." She did what Elijah said, and the flour and oil did not run out, just as God had promised.

Later the widow's son became so sick that he stopped breathing. His mother was heartbroken. Elijah carried the boy upstairs to his own bed and cried out to God. Three times he stretched himself over the child and prayed, "Please let this child live again!" God heard Elijah's prayer, and the boy breathed again! Elijah brought him down and said, "Look, your son is alive." And the widow said, "Now I know you are a man of God, and that God's word from your mouth is true."

When the brook dried up, God wasn't finished providing.

Talk Together

AGES 4-7

1. What did the ravens bring Elijah?
2. What did the widow have left in her jars?
3. How do you think the mother felt when her son was alive again?

AGES 8-12

1. The brook dried up even though Elijah obeyed God. What did God do next?
2. Why was it hard for the widow to make Elijah's cake first?
3. Elijah told God exactly how he felt (17:20). What can you tell God when you're upset?

TEENS

1. People believed Baal sent the rain, but Elijah said the rain would come only by God's word (17:1). What do people today trust to take care of them?
2. Jesus pointed to this foreign widow (Luke 4:25-26). What does that show about who God cares for?
3. After her son was restored, the widow said, "Now I know..." (17:24). How have hard times shaped your faith or your questions? You may pass.

Try This Together

Empty Jar, Full Thanks 5 MINUTES A DAY Set an empty jar on the table. Each evening this week, everyone writes or draws one way God provided that day and drops it in. At the end of the week, read the slips aloud and say the memory verse together as a thank-you prayer.

Share Together 10 MINUTES The widow shared from the little she had, trusting God's promise. Choose one thing your family can share this week (a meal, food for a pantry, a visit, a kind note), do it, then talk about how it felt. Time and kindness count as much as things.

MEMORY VERSE

"It is because of Yahweh's loving kindnesses that we are not consumed, because his mercies don't fail. They are new every morning. Great is your faithfulness."

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23, WEB

Younger children: learn "...Great is your faithfulness."

A FAMILY PRAYER

Dear God, thank You for Your love and faithfulness, new every morning. Please help everyone who doesn't have enough today, and show us how to help. When things run low or feel hard, help us trust You and tell You honestly how we feel. Thank You for Jesus, the bread of life, who is stronger than death. In Jesus' name, amen.