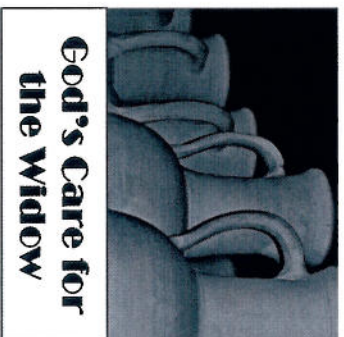


# God's Story™ Our Story

October 30, 2016



**Devotion:** Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions. You can do this alone or with others; in the morning, during the day, or at night. Find a routine that works best for you.

**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

Lord, our vision is often too small to see the vastness of your abundance. Open our clenched hands, that in so doing we might find them already full of your blessings. In Jesus' name Amen.

**Reflect:** Reflect on the key verses from Sunday's reading.

*Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth."*  
1 Kings 17:13-14

**Study:** Study the reading and consider the background.

When resources are scarce, we are tempted to cling to what little we have. If the widow of Zarephath had done the same, she would never have known the unpredictable joys of welcoming Elijah the prophet.

**Consider:** Consider this theme for the week's text.

When we care for our planet, our planet cares for us.

**Read:** Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding of Sunday's text. After the reading, ask the follow-up questions.

Sunday: *God's Care for the Widow*, 1 Kings 17:1-16 [17-24]

Monday: *Elijah Meets God*, 1 Kings 19:11-18, 2 Kings 9:30-37

Tuesday: *Elijah Ascends to Heaven and Elisha Succeeds Elijah*, 2 Kings 2:1-18

Wednesday: *Elisha Heals Naaman*, 2 Kings 5:1-19

Thursday: *Amos Prophesies Against Israel*, Amos 5:18-24

Friday: *Hosea Prophesies Against Israel*, Hosea 2:1-13

Saturday: *Micah Prophesies to Both Kingdoms*, Micah 6:1-8

**What is going on in the world at the time of Elijah? How is Elijah's world like ours? How is it different?**

**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household. Discuss the following questions, or simply check in with "Highs" and "Lows."

**What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?**

**When have you accepted or offered help to someone whose skin is a different color, or who speaks a different language? What can you do to provide food or water to someone who is in need?**

**What have you been refraining from doing because it's hard to trust God? What can you do to demonstrate trust in God this week?**

**DO:** By acting on what we learn we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Plant some bulbs that will grow in the spring. Over the winter, pray for the healing of our planet. In the spring, as your bulbs sprout and blossom, celebrate the planet's resilience.

**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God bless all who care for the planet and its people. Amen.