

Elisha: A Tale of Ridiculous Faith

Week 3: Ridiculous Provision

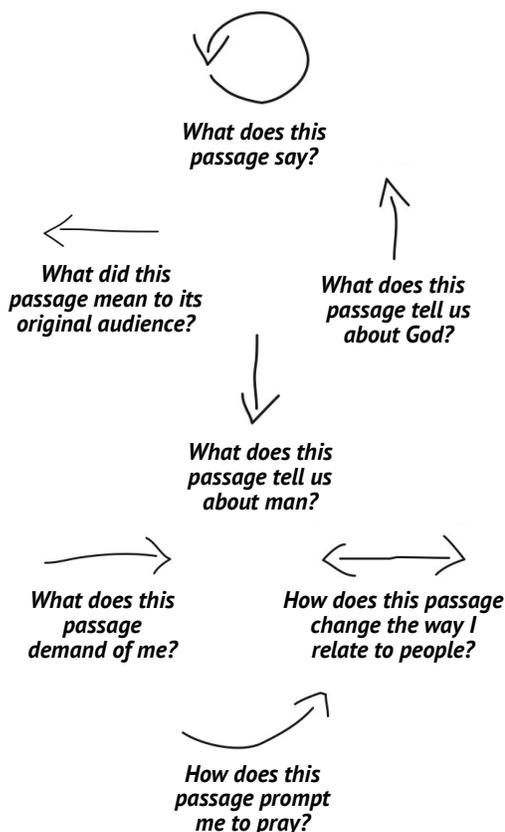
TALK IT OVER

KEY SCRIPTURE

2 Kings 4:1-7

Elisha said, "Borrow *as many empty jars as you can* from your friends and neighbors..." (v. 3)

THE 7 ARROWS OF BIBLE READING



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Day 1: 2 Kings 4:1-7

Day 2: 2 Corinthians 9:8-10

Day 3: 2 Kings 4:8-37

Day 4: 2 Peter 1:3-4

Day 5: 2 Kings 4:38-44

Day 6: 2 Kings 5:1-19

Day 7: Philippians 4:6-7

Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Have you ever witnessed a miracle? What was it like? What made it a "miracle"?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Where in your life do you feel most overwhelmed right now? How has that affected you?
- Read and discuss 2 Kings 4:1-7. You can use *The 7 Arrows of Bible Reading* (on the left) to help dig into the text, if needed.
- Why did Elisha ask the widow what she had in her house? Is there any significance to this question?
- Why does the widow obey? What were her alternatives?
- Why did Elisha instruct the widow to "shut" her door during the miracle?

Start sharing. Choose some questions to create openness.

- Share a time when God did a lot with just a little in your life. What did you learn from the experience?
- What do you have that God can use? How will you allow Him to use it?
- Why do you think our focus is often on what we don't have instead of what we do have?
- The only limit to the blessing God provided was how many jars the widow collected. Can you think of examples of how we underestimate God's provision?
- Pastor Matthew said, "When you don't have what you want, God is what you really need." How have you experienced the truth of that statement?
- Have you experienced God's ridiculous provisions in your life? If so, how?

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

Generous God, thank You for all that You provide us with to support our body and life. You pour out blessings in abundance even though we didn't do anything to deserve them. Help us to see You in all that we have and trust in Your goodness to provide for our needs with contentment and gratitude. Give us eyes to see how we can be a blessing to our neighbors with the things You give to us. Amen.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- In light of what's "already in your house" (your version of a "small jar of oil"), how can you begin putting your faith to action this week?
- What unimportant things do you need to empty yourself of so that God can fill you up with what matters most? Ask God to help you identify and let go of those things.
- Help someone in need. Look for ways to bless someone who is struggling or in need. It doesn't need to be a big thing—the widow just needed some jars!