

WONDERS

Title: **FAITH IN GOD BRINGS HIS PROVISION**

Date: July 28, 2024

Leader's Tips:

- S** - Sensitivity with others. No one should feel left out.
- P** - Participation is encouraged during discussion.
- A** - Acknowledge guests. Make them feel welcome.
- C** - Confidentiality is key. What is shared stays in the group.
- E** - Encourage the group to pray for one another.

WORSHIP: (15 mins)

Venue Option 1: Home gatherings

Sing one or two songs or play a song from You Tube.

Venue Option 2: Public place (school, café, park, etc.) or **Via Online**, ask, "What is your "high" or "your "low" this past we."

WELCOME:(15 mins): Welcome everyone in the group.

Ice-breaker/Humor: "A man died and went to heaven. He is at the Pearly Gates and St.Peter, led him down the golden streets. They walk by mansions after beautiful estates until they came to the end of the road where they stopped in front of a little shack. The man asked St.Peter why he got a simple hut when there were so many mansions where he would be more comfortable. St.Peter replied, "I did the best with the money you sent us."

Memory Verse: Hebrews 11:6, Proverbs 11:24-25 NLT

WORD (30–45 mins) - Text: 1 Kings 17:8-16 NIV

Meeting our basic needs is a fundamental part of human existence. These needs include food, water, air, shelter, sleep, and health. We work to provide for these needs. However, God also wants us to experience His supernatural provision. In 1 Kings 17:8-16, we can learn how to enjoy God's provision during difficult times.

1. She highly valued the word of the Lord –

This widow didn't just do what was natural to do, to prepare their last meal, she trusted the word of the Lord. Faith in God is trusting His word. The Word of God is needed in order for faith to grow in our hearts and minds. God's word commands us to do the following: **Read Matthew 4:4**

Q: Would you share a time when you were in a crisis or difficult situation that you trusted no one else but God?

Q: When was the last time you did something out of the ordinary, something done in faith and then saw great results?

Q: How is spending regular time in God's Word help you in your everyday challenges in life?

2. She acted on the word of the Lord to provide for Elijah – Read 1 Kings 17: 8-12

The widow heard directly from the Lord (v.8) and was confirmed when Elijah's came to meet her. She gave the last meal to Elijah in response to the word of the Lord. She obeyed God's will, did the right thing during her moment of desperation by giving generously to God's prophet. Faith is a fact but faith is an act.

Q: If you were in the widow's situation, would you do what she did for Elijah?

Q: Describe the kind of faith the widow had, what can you say about her?

Q: What practical ways can we do to follow the example of this widow from Zarepath?

As a result, God rewarded her and her son with supernatural provision. **Read vv.15-16** – "She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So, there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. 16 For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the Lord spoken by Elijah."

We give our tithes to provide for the Lord's work and He promises to bless us when we obey. **Read Malachi 3:10 NIV**

Tithing was established in the Old Testament to support the Priests and Levites designated by God for service in His temple. They are to lead and guide God's people in worship and obedience. Similarly, we give our tithes today to support the work of the Lord in and through the church, enabling us to fulfill the mission God has called us to do here in Winnipeg and beyond.

God also promised to bless generous people. **Read Proverbs 11:24-25 NLT, Psalm 37:21, 25-26 NIV**

Conclusion:

The Bible is a book of stories, but it is not just stories of the past but a book that can help create new ones. When we take God and His word seriously, God can create new stories of God's supernatural interventions in people's lives who chose to trust in Him and act on His word.

Q: What is your take-away from the discussion? Partner with someone in prayer.

WORK: The Challenge (15 mins.)

P- Pray for one another. Ask "what can I pray for you?" (7mins.)

R- Remind to invite a friend on the next gathering.

A- Apply the message during the week.

Y- Yearn to share your faith with someone during the week.