

Unit 2: Obedience in the Bible

Lesson 4: The widow's obedience (I Kings 17:1-16)

4th grade or Juniors

Performance Objectives:

1. The student will recite Philippians 4:19 from memory with no more than two helps.

Materials Needed: Visuals for memory verse and all songs.

Opening Activities:

- Prayer
- Sing "Obedience"
- Introduce memory verse
- Sing "God is So Good"
- Sing "Thank You, Lord"

Sequence of Activities:

- A. Review and Motivation. Ask questions about last week from Ruth.
- B. In the Old Testament there was a prophet named Elijah. He had just given news to King Ahab that there would be no rain on the earth for a long time. God told Elijah to go the brook Cherith. While he was there, God fed him by sending ravens to bring him food in the morning and in the evening. He drank from the waters of the brook. Because there was no rain, the brook eventually dried up. God sent Elijah to the town of Zarephath and said, "Behold, I have commanded a widow woman to sustain thee." When Elijah came to the gate of the city he saw the widow woman gathering sticks, and he said to her, "Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink." As she was going to get the water, Elijah added another part, "Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand." The widow replied, "I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die." Elijah said, "Fear not, go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for they son." How would that be possible? The widow was very poor, and she barely had enough for her and her son to eat! How could she prepare food for this prophet Elijah? But Elijah was not done speaking. "For thus saith the LORD God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the LORD sendeth rain upon the earth." The next verse says that "she went and did according to the saying of Elijah: and she, and he, and her house, did eat many days. And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by Elijah.
- C. The widow woman did not know how it was possible for her to make food for herself and for Elijah, but she obeyed anyway. This is another example (like Ruth) of obeying, even when you do not know why, or what will happen if you do or do not obey.
- D. Explain and teach Philippians 4:19. Play 'Popcorn' game.
- E. Play a review game asking questions from the entire unit.

Evaluation: Each student will be able to recite Philippians 4:19 from memory with no more than two helps.