

# NOT THE WIDOW'S JAR

WEEK 2  
2 Kings 4:1-7



Prepare:  
1 glass filled with water  
1 Empty pitcher

Say: Do you think the water in this glass can fill up the entire pitcher?

Imagine this pitcher is us. It represents the things we need and want, the things we need to be filled. This glass represents all that we have like our jobs, our possessions, even all our efforts. (Pour the water from the glass to the pitcher.) Now, when we put the water from this glass, the water can only fill so much. You see, almost all of the time, what we have is only as much as this glass of water. This is the picture when we rely only ourselves to provide for our needs. We are limited.

But what do you think if we had an unlimited source of water?

(Go to the sink and fill the pitcher with water until it overflows.) Do you believe that God is able to provide and He is unlimited? This is a picture when we put our faith in God and believe that He is willing and able to provide for all our needs.

In our story, we will see a widow who was in desperate need and had nothing to provide for herself and her children. But she knew who to run to for help.



2 Kings 4:1-7

*1 Now the wife of one of the sons of the prophets cried to Elisha, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that your servant feared the Lord, but the creditor has come to take my two children to be his slaves." 2 And Elisha said to her, "What shall I do for you? Tell me; what have you in the house?" And she said, "Your servant has nothing in the house except a jar of oil." 3 Then he said, "Go outside, borrow vessels from all your neighbors, empty vessels and not too few. 4 Then go in and shut the door behind yourself and your sons and pour into all these vessels. And when one is full, set it aside." 5 So she went from him and shut the door behind herself and her sons. And as she poured they brought the vessels to her. 6 When the vessels were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another vessel." And he said to her, "There is not another." Then the oil stopped flowing. 7 She came and told the man of God, and he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debts, and you and your sons can live on the rest."*

Think about the unlimited oil in that jar. It must have been a miracle! But where do you think the miracle came from - the jar? From Elisha? No. It came from God! God provided for them. He is the source of the overflowing provision. God provided so much for the widow that she was able to pay her debts and still have enough for her family to live on.



**Parent to Kid**  
**2-6 years old**

- Who will you go to when you want something?
- Who do you think owns the universe?

**7-12 years old**

- When was the last time you were in lack of something? What is it? To whom did you seek provision? Why that person?

**Kid to Parent**

- What is one thing you're believing God to provide for our family? Why?

In our lives today, we have to work to be able to provide for our daily needs. But we must always remember that everything comes from God. He is our ultimate source and He is limitless. And as His children, we can come to Him. If we know that God is our Father and Provider, we should live our life with complete dependence and faith in Him.



Dear Lord,

Thank You because You are a good Father that loves us so much that You are willing and able to provide for all our needs. Thank You because You know what we need even before we ask and You will never give us something that will cause us harm. Teach and remind us always to trust You and depend on You. We pray that You will strengthen our faith in You. In Jesus' Name we pray,

Amen.



Back during the old days of Israel, oil was considered a basic essential. People use it a lot in their everyday life. They use it to make bread and to give flavor to their food. They also use it as balm or healing oil, as fuel for their homes and even as a protection for their leather. It is also used in making expensive perfumes and ointments.

When we read the story today, we may not think much of all the jars of oil God provided for the widow. Compared to money, gadgets and other possessions, the oil may seem insignificant. But because of its wide variety of usage, oil was a precious commodity in international trade.

So, you can imagine how immensely God provided for the widow! If the Lord can do it then to her so He can provide for you as well today!

Source: <https://missionbibleclass.org/old-testament/part2/divided-kingdom/elisha-and-the-widows-oil-2/>