



1 Kings 17:8-13

8 Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, **9** "Arise, go to Zarephath, which *belongs* to Sidon, and dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you." **10** So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, indeed a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, "Please bring me a little water in a cup, that I may drink." **11** And as she was going to get *it*, he called to her and said, "Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." **12** So she said, "As the Lord your God lives, I do not have bread, only a handful of flour in a bin, and a little oil in a jar; and see, I *am* gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die." **13** And Elijah said to her, "Do not fear; go *and* do as you have said, but make me a small cake from it first, and bring *it* to me; and afterward make *some* for yourself and your son.

- We pray and ask God for breakthrough, salvation for family members, healing, and deliverance; we witness others receiving it, but it may seem not to be forthcoming to us.
- The widow of Zarephath had every reason to be offended.
- The widow chose to give out of her loneliness, rejection, depression, poverty, lack, want, need.
- She could've chosen to go back home and die in her loneliness. Many of us go back home every day and die in our loneliness, rejection, spiritual starvation, and depression.
- The answer to her prayer was a man of God asking her to give a little more.
- Even though she needed something, even though she was in dire need of help, even though she had a prayer request, she chose to look beyond that and serve in her struggle.
- We pray for God to provide a way out of our struggles, provide a way out of our hardships, wilderness. Along comes the answer to our prayers and we may not want it, see it or recognize it.
- Sometimes we want God to answer our prayers in a specific way but His ways aren't our ways.
- Serving in your struggle will lead you out of your struggle.
- God will use your struggle as a method of bringing breakthrough and freedom into your life.
- God is not a spiritual lottery.

Philippians 2:12

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling

- Deliverance isn't a magic jackpot, it is the inheritance of the saints, the children's bread.



- God is concerned with freedom, not deliverance. God is concerned with good health, not healing.

Luke 22:32

But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren.”

- The slow movement of a tiger is not a mistake but a calculated accuracy.
- Not every car standing still is broken down.