

**A WOMAN OF GOD**  
**A Mothers' Day Message**  
**1 Kings 17:8-24**  
**Dr. Greg Tyree, BBC, AM, May 8, 2005**

***INTRODUCTION:***

<sup>8</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, <sup>9</sup>“Arise, go to Zarephath, which *belongs* to Sidon, and dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you.” <sup>10</sup>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.” <sup>11</sup>And as she was going to get *it*, he called to her and said, “Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.”

<sup>12</sup>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.”

<sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>For thus says the LORD God of Israel: ‘The bin of flour shall not be used up, nor shall the jar of oil run dry, until the day the LORD sends rain on the earth.’”

<sup>15</sup>So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah; and she and he and her household ate for *many* days. <sup>16</sup>The bin of flour was not used up, nor did the jar of oil run dry, according to the word of the LORD which He spoke by Elijah.

<sup>17</sup>Now it happened after these things *that* the son of the woman who owned the house became sick. And his sickness was so serious that there was no breath left in him. <sup>18</sup>So she said to Elijah, “What have I to do with you, O man of God? Have you come to me to bring my sin to remembrance, and to kill my son?”

<sup>19</sup>And he said to her, “Give me your son.” So he took him out of her arms and carried him to the upper room where he was staying, and laid him on his own bed. <sup>20</sup>Then he cried out to the LORD and said, “O LORD my God, have You also brought tragedy on the widow with whom I lodge, by *\*killing her son?” <sup>21</sup>And he stretched himself out on the child three times, and cried out to the LORD and said, “O LORD my God, I pray, let this

child's soul come back to him." <sup>22</sup>Then the LORD heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came back to him, and he revived.

<sup>23</sup>And Elijah took the child and brought him down from the upper room into the house, and gave him to his mother. And Elijah said, "See, your son lives!" <sup>24</sup>Then the woman said to Elijah, "Now by this I know that you *are* a man of God, *and* that the word of the LORD in your mouth *is* the truth."

**PROPOSITION:** So that we may truly honor godly mothers today, let's see seven things about the life of the woman of God.

**I. SEE THE DEMANDS OF THE WOMAN OF GOD. Vss. 8-11.**

A. She was a Single Mom. Vss. 8, 9.

<sup>8</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, <sup>9</sup>"Arise, go to Zarephath, which *belongs* to Sidon, and dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you."

B. She was a Serving Mom. Vss. 10, 11.

<sup>10</sup>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." <sup>11</sup>And as she was going to get *it*, he called to her and said, "Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand."

**II. SEE THE DISTRESS OF THE WOMAN OF GOD. Vs. 12.**

A. She Has No Help.

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;

B. She Has No Hope.

...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."

**III. SEE THE DILEMMA OF THE WOMAN OF GOD. Vss. 13, 14.**

A. Her Faith Is **Pushed**. Vs. 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.

B. Her Future Is **Promised**. Vs. 14.

For thus says the LORD God of Israel: “The bin of flour shall not be used up, nor shall the jar of oil run dry, until the day the LORD sends rain on the earth.””

**IV. SEE THE DELIGHT OF THE WOMAN OF GOD. Vss. 15, 16.**

A. The Woman of God **Obeys** God’s Word. Vs. 15.

So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah; and she and he and her household ate for *many* days.

B. The Woman of God **Observes** God’s Wonders. Vs. 16.

The bin of flour was not used up, nor did the jar of oil run dry, according to the word of the LORD which He spoke by Elijah.

**V. SEE THE DISAPPOINTMENT OF THE WOMAN OF GOD. Vss. 17, 18.**

A. The Mother Watches Her **Precious** Son Expire. Vs. 17.

Now it happened after these things *that* the son of the woman who owned the house became sick. And his sickness was so serious that there was no breath left in him.

B. The Mother Wants the **Prophetic** Servant to Explain. Vs. 18.

So she said to Elijah, “What have I to do with you, O man of God? Have you come to me to bring my sin to remembrance, and to kill my son?”

**VI. SEE THE DESIRE OF THE WOMAN OF GOD. Vss. 19-22.**

- A. Note the Demeanor of the Lady. Vs. 19.

And he said to her, "Give me your son." So he took him out of her arms and carried him to the upper room where he was staying, and laid him on his own bed.

- B. Note the Death of the Lad. Vs. 20.

Then he cried out to the LORD and said, "O LORD my God, have You also brought tragedy on the widow with whom I lodge, by killing her son?"

- C. Note the Dependence on the Lord. Vs. 21.

And he stretched himself out on the child three times, and cried out to the LORD and said, "O LORD my God, I pray, let this child's soul come back to him."

- D. Note the Deliverance of the Lord. Vs. 22.

Then the LORD heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came back to him, and he revived.

**VII. SEE THE DISCERNMENT OF THE WOMAN OF GOD. Vss. 23, 24.**

- A. The Woman Witnesses God's Greatness. Vs. 23.

And Elijah took the child and brought him down from the upper room into the house, and gave him to his mother. And Elijah said, "See, your son lives!"

- B. The Woman Wants God to Be Glorified. Vs. 23.

Then the woman said to Elijah, "Now by this I know that you *are* a man of God, *and* that the word of the LORD in your mouth *is* the truth."

**APPLICATION:**

1. A mother's life can be a life of duty.
2. A mother's life can be a life of difficulty.

3. A mother's life can be a life of *disappointment*.
4. A mother's life can be a life of *discouragement*.
5. A mother's life can be a life of *determination*.
6. A mother's life can be a life of *discernment*.
7. A mother's life can be a life of *delight*.