

A still life painting with a warm, golden-brown color palette. In the foreground, a large, white, rounded ceramic jar with a handle is partially visible. To its right, a hand is holding a dark, shallow bowl. Below the hand, a dark, patterned cloth or bag is draped. The background features a wall with ornate, carved patterns. The overall mood is quiet and contemplative.

# Mothers Day Flour

1 Kings 17:8-24

# Walking in Faith

- Sometimes God is silent because we are like Jonah and will refuse to walk in faith if we know what is coming.
- Elijah had to walk in faith alone with minimal details.
- God supplies the details as we walk in faith.
- When Elijah arrived at the gate, the widow who God told him to meet was there.
- All we know about the widow is that she is a single mother who is just trying to exist.

# Hospitality

- In the ancient middle east hospitality was very important.
- The widow may be at the end of her rope, but she still had her dignity and performed the act of hospitality by giving Elijah some water.
- Because of the custom of hospitality, she was trapped by Elijah when he added a second request.
- If God operates this way in the lives of those found in holy Scripture, why would you expect God to act differently in your life?
- The weakness of this widow makes her strong.

# Acting In Faith

- We can see that in the beginning the widow had a tiny, twinkle of faith when she acknowledged that there is a God.
- She went from a teeny tiny faith to enormously huge faith when Elijah asked for the impossible.
- The widow could not divide what is left to make sure she and her son had some; if she baked a loaf of bread for Elijah - she must give away what she had first.
- We see our faith as holding on, when God sees our faith as letting go.
- God blessed her with the faith to take the step, and she responded.



# Growing In Faith

- It is one thing to say you believe, it is another thing to take action on that belief.
- Faith is not about huge projects; it is about everyday life.
- The widow had to believe before she took the action of making the loaf, or she would not have made the bread.
- The widow let go and the blessings came raining down.
- It is clear that the widow believed to some degree, but she still did not have a convicted belief.

# The Fiery Trial

- The widow saw a daily miracle, but the death of her son was too much to endure.
- Elijah could not take the boy without his mother letting go.
- The widow found herself in weakness, but once more she did not hold on, she let go.
- God heard Elijah's cry and answered his prayer; the son lived... what a Mother's Day present!

# Conclusion

- The resurrection of the widow's son cemented her faith; she now knew that the Word of God was real and active.
- This mother started as a woman who had a tiny sparkle of faith, but it was enough for God to change her world in a split second.
- To be truly used by God we must stop waiting for the details; we must stop holding on to the thing we have been holding on to and just let go.