

# HOLY FRIENDSHIP BROADSHEET #6

Reflections & Conversation based on the Sunday Service

## In this issue:

- ◆ This Sunday is Adoption Sunday.
- ◆ This week pray for those who have been adopted, their adoptive parents & birth parents.
- ◆ Use Psalm 146 as a daily prayer.
- ◆ **Be sure to turn in your 2019 pledge card.**

## 1 Kings 17:8-16

<sup>8</sup>Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, <sup>9</sup>‘Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.’ <sup>10</sup>So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, ‘Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.’ <sup>11</sup>As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, ‘Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.’ <sup>12</sup>But she said, ‘As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.’ <sup>13</sup>Elijah said to her, ‘Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son.’ <sup>14</sup>For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth.’ <sup>15</sup>She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. <sup>16</sup>The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

## Reflection Questions

Why does Elijah tell her to provide for him first?

If you were the widow, how would you have responded to Elijah’s words in v. 13-14?

What “jars and jugs” are running dry for you? Have you ever been through a “spiritual drought”?

What seemingly impossible prayer requests do you need to give to God?



## Israel during Elijah’s Ministry

After the death of King Solomon, the kingdom divided between his sons—Rehoboam (Judah, southern kingdom) & Jeroboam (Israel, northern kingdom). Elijah was a prophet in the northern kingdom of Israel. After 22 years in power, Jeroboam and his heirs were assassinated. This was followed by two more coups that resulted in Ahab coming to power and ruling for 22 years.

Ahab married Jezebel, the daughter of the king of Sidon, who brought with her the worship of Baal and made it a part of the official royal religion in Israel. She ordered the purge of the prophets of Yahweh, during which Elijah fled Israel.

## Prayer for Illumination

**By the power of your Holy Spirit, O God,  
set us free from fear  
and fill us with the assurance of your salvation  
through the hearing of your Word,  
Jesus Christ our Brother. Amen.**