



## Your Obedience Matters

1 Kings 17:8-24

### Introduction

Do you ever wonder what difference it makes if you do what God says? After all, who will it hurt?

This week, we see that our obedience matters. God used Elijah's obedience to care for a widow and her son, and He used the widow's obedience to provide for Elijah. Through their life, we see clearly how God can use our obedience to impact others.

However, obeying God's commands isn't always easy. From the account of Elijah and the widow, we can learn three lessons:

- 1) Obedience puts us in uncomfortable situations.
- 2) Obedience leaves us with an unknown future.
- 3) Obedience confronts us with unforeseen problems.

### Main Idea:

**Your obedience matters.**

### Discussion

- 1) Do you ever wonder if your obedience matters to anyone?
- 2) What was significant about God sending Elijah to Zarephath (*see also Luke 4:22-30*)?
- 3) How would you have felt if you were the widow and you were called to give up your last meal?
- 4) Describe a time when obeying Christ put you in an uncomfortable place. What did God do through that in your life and the life of those around you?
- 5) What keeps us from trusting God fully with our future?
- 6) Do you ever wrestle with whether or not God is really who the Bible says He is? How do you work through that?
- 7) A few weeks ago, we discussed viewing every circumstance with the backdrop of the cross. If you were the widow, how would that change your understanding of 1 Kings 17:17-24?
- 8) What problems are you currently facing that make it difficult to see where God is at work? How does this passage help you?

### Application

- 1) What is God calling you to do that you aren't doing? Who is hurt by your lack of obedience?
- 2) What area is hardest for you to trust God with? Commit that area to Him.