

Calvary Chapel of Philadelphia



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TEACHER'S PACKET

3rd - 5th Grade

## Sunday Morning

Study 3

*See, Your Son Lives!*

# See, Your Son Lives!

The Objective is the key concept for this week's lesson. It should be the main focus of the study.

These are the key verses that you will find helpful in teaching your study this week. The "Main passage" is the basis of the study, where the other verses support the objective of the lesson.

There is a memory verse for the students that relates to every study. If a student can memorize the verse for the following week you may give them a prize from the "reward box" found on your cart.

An introductory activity or question that will settle the class, draw their attention to the study and prepare their hearts for God's Word.

**Objective** To show the students that only God has power over death.

## Key Verses

1 Kings 17:17-24—Main Teaching Passage

John 9:3

1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

**Memory Verse** - 1 Corinthians 15:22

"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive."

## Hook

Review last week's memory verse, Luke 12:24.

Ask the kids, "Have you ever taken something for granted (expect that someone or something will always be available)?"

What are some things that you take for granted?

Have you ever had something that you took for granted taken away (like when the power goes out, etc.)? How did you feel after you got it back?

What does the Bible say? This is where we will read a passage or series of passages that teach on the subject of the day.

# BOOK

The prophet Elijah was an outlaw. He had declared a drought to King Ahab and had been in hiding ever since. First he hid at the brook where he was fed by ravens, and then at a widow's house where God had been miraculously refilling her flour and oil every day. Though the widow and her son had been on the verge of starvation, now she had a continual supply of food for herself, her son, and Elijah.

It was during this time of miraculous provision that the widow's son became very sick. He got so sick, in fact, that he died, and the widow partially blamed Elijah, but also thought it must have happened because of some past sin she had committed.

Elijah took her lifeless son in his arms, carried him to his room, and placed him on the bed. He then stretched himself over the child and cried out to the LORD in prayer to bring the boy's soul back into him. After praying this three times, the LORD revived the child.

Elijah took the child back down to his mother, declaring, *"See, your son lives!"* The widow's response was to worship the LORD. *"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."*

# LOOK

Life was good. The widow who had shared her precious water and the last of her food with Elijah had been blessed with a continual supply of food from the Lord. Similar to when Israel was supplied with enough manna to feed them every day of the week, this widow and everyone in her house *"ate for many days."* I wonder if she ever got used to this. When things are good and we begin to take things for granted, we can begin to forget how much God has actually blessed us with. That is, until those things are taken away.

God had rescued the widow and her son from starvation, but now her son was dead from some severe sickness. Sadly, like many today, she believed her misfortune was because of some sin in her life, but this wasn't the case. Like the man born blind in John 9, this boy died *"that the works of God should be revealed."*

It's easy to cast blame on ourselves, others, or especially God when bad things happen to us, and this is exactly what Satan wants us to do. But it is so important to remember that God is in control and that His plan is perfect, to prosper you, to give you a future and a hope. Even when others plan evil against us, He works it out for the good. God doesn't always give us an explanation for why He allows certain things to happen, but the Christian's hope is in promises, not explanations, and His promise is to be with us and give us His peace in Christ Jesus that passes understanding.

The interpretation/exegesis of the passage. What does this passage mean? How does this passage apply to my life?

# LOOK (Continued)

That being said, even in service to the prophet of God, trials can still come. All of us will experience difficult times, but our response must not be to cast blame, but to come to God in prayer. That is exactly what Elijah did. Remember, Elijah was a man of prayer (James 5:17). He prayed that the rain would cease and it did. He would pray for it to start up again and it would. But he didn't pray once, get discouraged, and give up. He kept bringing his requests to God in prayer. Once, twice, a third time...

Elijah had never read this chapter before. As a matter of fact, nowhere in the Bible before this is there a record of someone being raised from the dead. Elijah, in faith, asked God to do something that had never been done before, and as he prayed the third time, the boy took a breath and began to move! In this we see God's great plan. His plan wasn't to break her heart and ruin her life, but for her to worship Him and declare His Word to be true.

There is much more we could say about this passage, but we'll close with this. Elijah was able to declare to this mother, "*See, your son lives!*" That is a hope that all of those who have accepted Jesus can claim. In Christ, all shall be made alive! We will spend eternity with Him. Life doesn't end in death. It's just the beginning. And what wonderful reunions await us in glory! I can just picture Jesus welcoming you into His kingdom and, like Elijah, saying, "See, your mom lives! See, your cousin lives! See, your friend lives!" The living God has conquered death, and all who follow Him will live. May we never take *that* for granted, but instead let it lead us to thank and praise Him every moment of every day.

What is my response to this passage of Scripture? How should my life change according to what this passage teaches me? What are the practical things I can do throughout the week to make this true in my life?

# TOOK

As a class, memorize 1 Corinthians 15:22.

**Pray:** Thank God for sending His Son Jesus to conquer death and give us life. Praise Him that even in the most difficult situations He is with us, and that one day we will live in a world where all of the things that make this life difficult will be behind us.

**Parent Question:** Why did the widow blame herself after her son died?

# FURTHER STUDY

## Commentary on 1 Kings 17:17-24 by David Guzik

C. Elijah raises the widow's son.

1. ([1Ki 17:17-18](#)) The widow's grief at the death of her son.

**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. 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?"**

a. **After these things that the son of the woman who owned the house became sick:** We can imagine the happy days of provision in the household of the widow. Their needs were supplied by a continuing miracle of God. Yet those happy days were eventually covered by a dark shadow: the sickness and death of the widow's son.

i. The death of the son was a double blow to the widow. Not only did she suffer as any mother who loses a child, but she also suffered as one who lost her only hope for the future. The expectation was that her son would grow and provide for her in her old age. Now that expectation was shattered.

b. **Have you come to me to bring my sin to remembrance, and to kill my son?** At the death of her son, the widow indirectly blamed Elijah. She more directly blamed herself and her unnamed **sin**. Whatever her sin was, the guilty memory of it was always close to her.

2. ([1Ki 17:19-20](#)) Elijah's prayer.

**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. 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?"**

a. **He took him out of her arms:** This vivid detail shows that the widow clutched the dead child tightly in her arms.

b. **The upper room where he was staying:** The term **upper room** "Refers to a temporary shelter or room on the roof, accessible from outside the house. Such structures are common in the Near East. This arrangement would allow the widow not only her needed privacy but would safeguard her reputation." (Patterson and Austel)

c. **Then he cried out to the Lord:** Elijah prayed with great heart and intimacy with God. He brought this seemingly unexplainable and irredeemable tragedy to God in prayer. Since he knew God led him to this widow, Elijah laid this **tragedy** on God and asked Him to remedy it.

3. ([1Ki 17:21-24](#)) The son is raised from the dead.

**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.” Then the Lord heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came back to him, and he revived. 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!” 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.”**

a. **He stretched himself out on the child three times, and cried out to the Lord:** This was an unusual prayer technique, but Elijah had no precedent for this. It was not because of his prayer technique, but because of his faith that God answered this prayer.

i. There is an almost irresistible desire to embellish on these wonderful accounts of the power of God. Patterson and Austel speak of one such attempt: “Syriac translation, followed by Jerome, that the lad was the prophet Jonah is totally unsatisfactory and historically impossible (cf. [2 Kings 14:25](#)).”

b. **O Lord my God, I pray, let this child’s soul come back to him:** “A prayer full of powerful arguments. Thou art *the Lord*, that canst revive the child; and *my God*, and therefore wilt not, do not, deny me. She is *a widow*; add not affliction to the afflicted; deprive her not of the great support and staff of her age. She hath given me kind entertainment; let her not fare the worse for her kindness to a prophet, whereby wicked men will take occasion to reproach both her and religion.” (Poole)

c. **Then the Lord heard the voice of Elijah:** The son was raised and God provided for the widow on every level – not only with the miraculous supply of food, but also with the resuscitation of her son.

i. “This first example in the Bible of revival from death cannot be explained away as contactual magic nor as the prophet’s life-force transmitted by the mouth-to-mouth method of resuscitation.” (Wiseman)