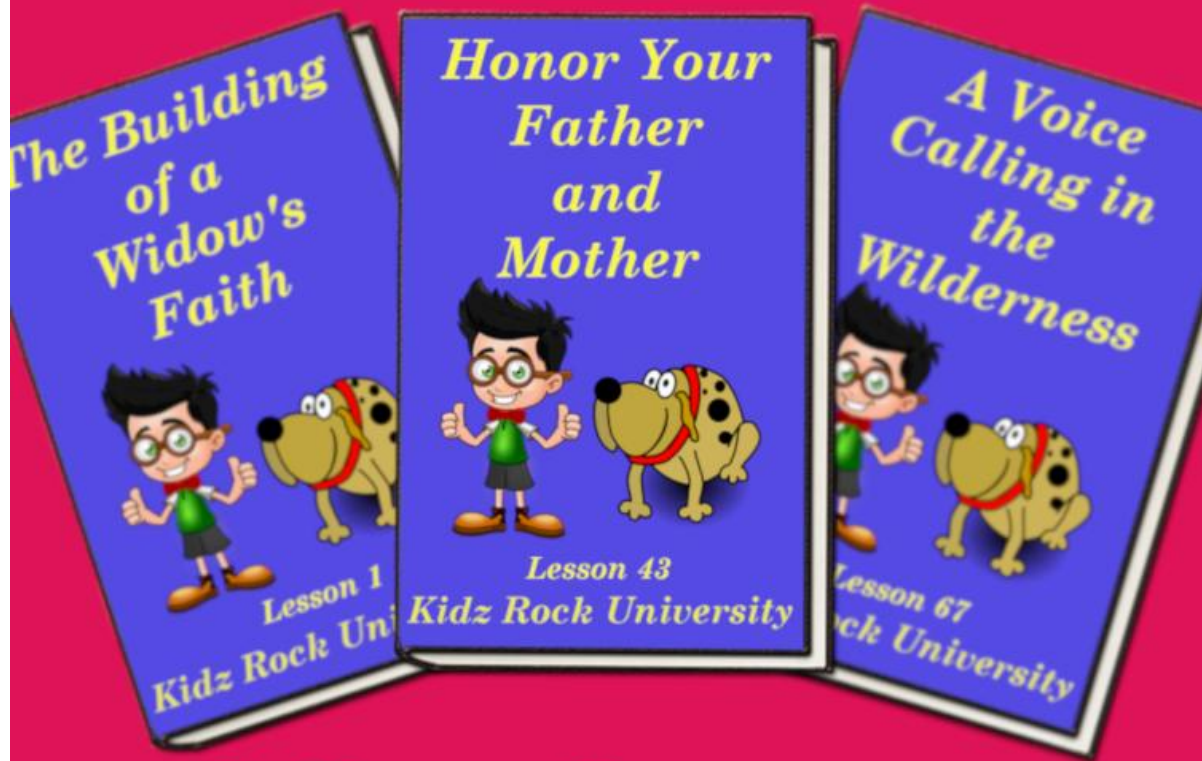




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Delivering the Stories

Sometimes when Jesus taught, he would use parables so the people would understand his message. In a like manner, our curriculum was developed to do the same, teach children through stories.

A Suggestion - Turn Review Time Into Game Time

Assign a point value to each of the review questions in each lesson. Split your class into two teams. Alternate between each team when asking the review questions. The game is over when all review questions have been exhausted. The team with the most points wins.

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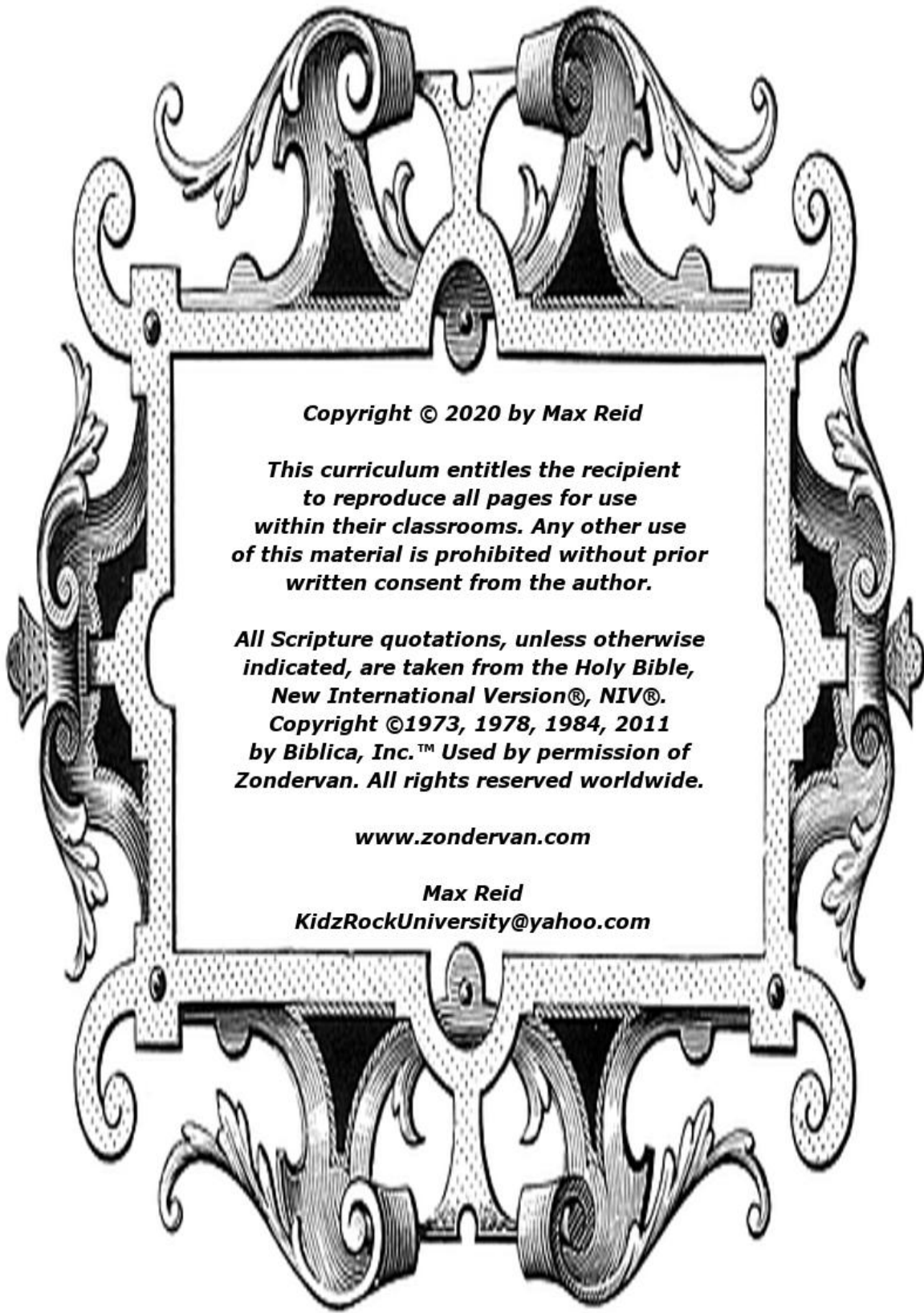
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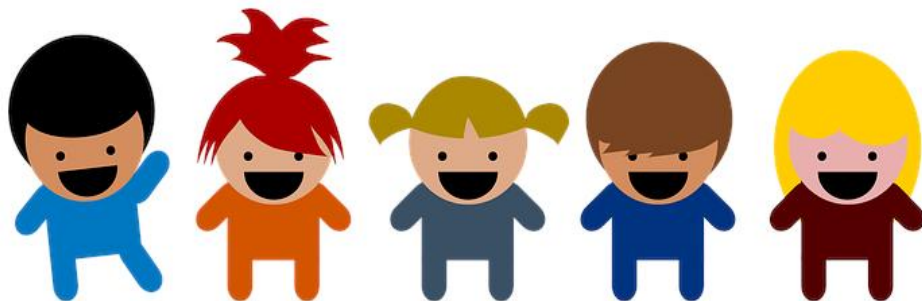
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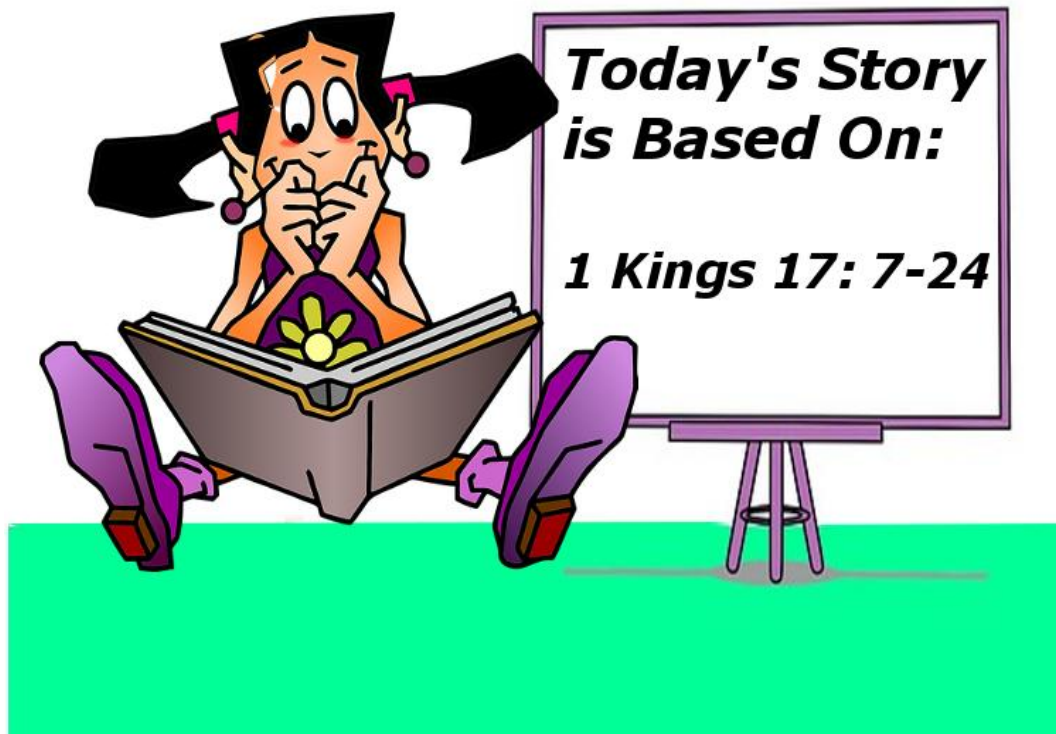
Lesson 1 – The Building of a Widow’s Faith



Today's Memory Verse and Bible Story Location

***And my God will
meet all your needs
according to the riches
of his glory
in Christ Jesus.***

Philippians 4:19

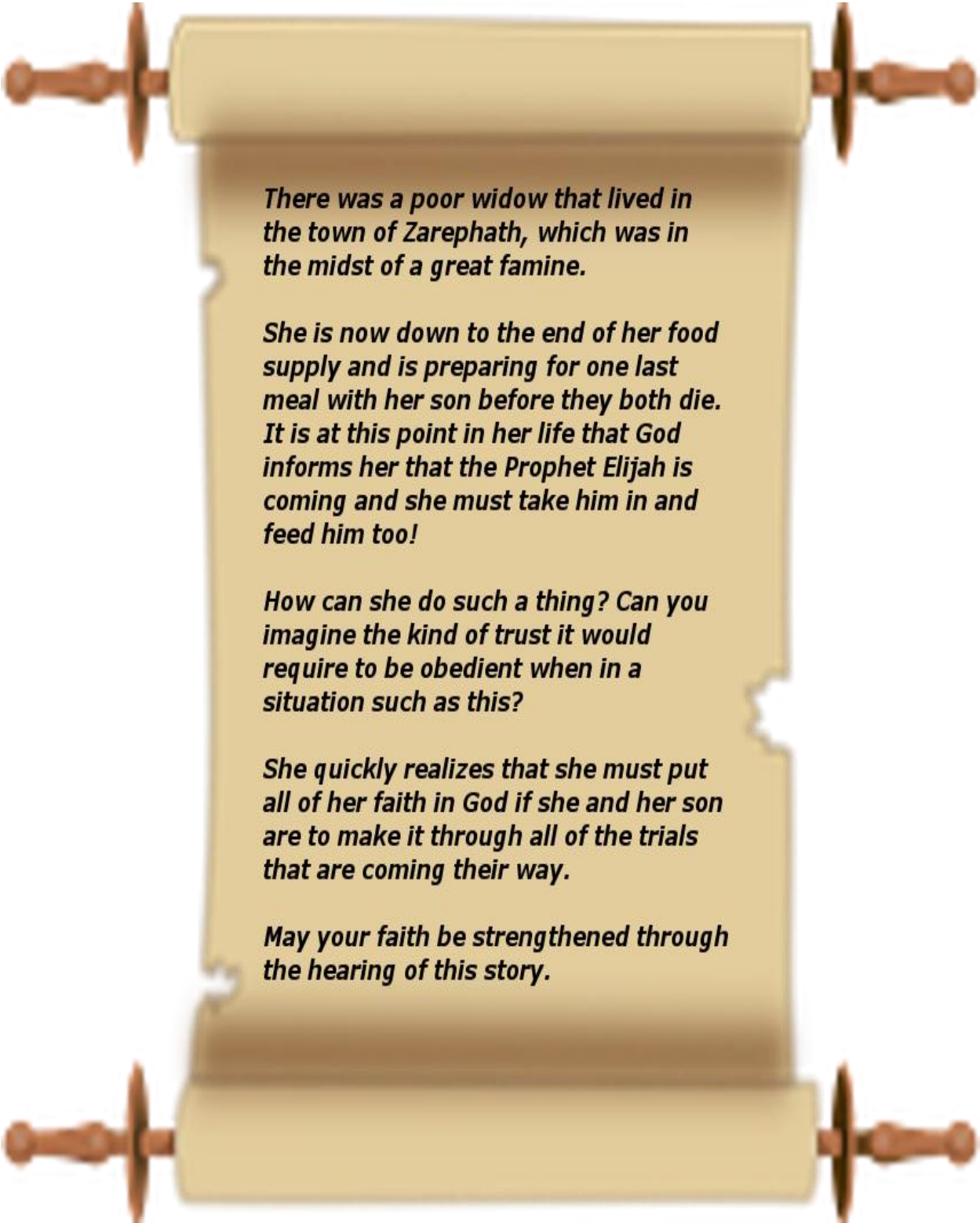


Word Pronunciations

Here is the correct pronunciation of the town in the story that follows. For readability purposes, if you have trouble using this pronunciation, pronounce it however necessary so the story can be delivered smoothly to your audience.

Name	Pronunciation
Zarephath	ZEHR-ee-fath

Introduction



There was a poor widow that lived in the town of Zarephath, which was in the midst of a great famine.

She is now down to the end of her food supply and is preparing for one last meal with her son before they both die. It is at this point in her life that God informs her that the Prophet Elijah is coming and she must take him in and feed him too!

How can she do such a thing? Can you imagine the kind of trust it would require to be obedient when in a situation such as this?

She quickly realizes that she must put all of her faith in God if she and her son are to make it through all of the trials that are coming their way.

May your faith be strengthened through the hearing of this story.

Story Time

There had been no rain for many days. The ground had dried up long ago. I was busy looking for food, something, anything to eat. Then I heard a whisper. I immediately looked all around, thinking it was my son but he wasn't there. I dismissed it, thinking that I must be going crazy and now hearing voices. Then, there it was again. It seemed to be coming from the heavens above. Unless I was completely losing my mind, the God of Israel was talking to me! I now listened closely to what he had to say.

“My servant Elijah is coming to visit you. He has been living down by the brook but there is no longer any water there. You will need to provide him with food while he stays with you.”

I responded, **“But Lord, how can I do that? Because of the famine, I have so little for myself and my son. I can't possibly feed him too!”**

He then replied, **“Elijah is a Great Prophet. You must trust him and do whatever he asks. If you will be obedient in this, you and your son will always be provided for.”**

I now realized that I would just have to put my faith in God and whatever was to happen would happen.

The next morning, I was out gathering sticks when a large, burly man with a faded blue cloak and a purple cape made his way through the town gates. As soon as he saw me, he headed in my direction. I pretended not to notice him, squatted down and continued picking up any twigs I could find. A moment or two later, I looked up to see where he had gone. There he was, standing right in front of me.

He had a very tired look on his face. **“Would you mind bringing me a little water? I am so thirsty!”** he said. As I went to get it, he called out, **“And please bring me some bread too.”**

I then turned back, stood before him and stated, **“I have no bread, only a handful of flour and a little bit of oil. I'm out here gathering up sticks so I can go home and make one last meal for my son and I before we both die.”**

“Please don't be afraid,” he reassured me. **“Go back home, make a small loaf of bread and bring it to me. Then make some for you and your son. God said this to me, ‘The jars of flour and oil will not run out until the Lord brings rain to your land once again.’”**



I couldn't believe it; it was the prophet Elijah. It was just as the God of Israel had spoken it would be. I hurried back home, poured out the flour and oil I had remaining, made some bread for Elijah and then went back to the town gates looking for him.

He hadn't moved very far. He was now sitting in a corner, apparently awaiting my return. I served him the bread along with a cup of water. Once he finished, I invited him to stay with me since he had nowhere else to go and of course, God had instructed me to do so.

He followed behind me as we headed home. All the way there, I couldn't help but think about the jars of flour and oil. I had used what remained in them to cook for Elijah, but he and God both promised that there would always be some left for me and my son.

Once we arrived, I took Elijah upstairs to show him the upper room he could live in while staying in the town of Zarephath. As I headed downstairs, I noticed that my son was now home. He was standing in the kitchen. When he noticed me, he held up the flour jar and asked, **"When are you going to be getting more flour and oil? It looks like we are just about out of them both."** Sure enough, just as God and Elijah had promised, there was still some flour and oil left over for my son and me to eat that day.

As the days went on, I soon discovered that God never filled the jars to the brim. Each morning there would always be enough for the three of us to eat that day. I guess God wanted me to live by faith, trusting him each day to supply my needs.

One morning while I was making breakfast, I got thinking about my son. He loved to eat and would always come out to help me cook, but on this day, he was still in bed. I went in to wake him, only to discover that he was very sick.

I left him alone, thinking a little more sleep would do him some good. Later that day, I looked in on him and he wasn't doing any better, in fact, he was much worse. That evening, he stopped breathing.

I wasn't sure what to do. I yelled out, **"Elijah, please help."** Elijah came running down the stairs. I led him into my son's room where I picked him up and screamed, **"Oh Prophet of God, what do you have against me? Did you just come out here to remind me of all the sins I ever committed and to take the life of my son?"**

Elijah then said, **"Give me your son."** He took him from my arms and carried him to the upper room where he was staying.



I couldn't bear to see my son's lifeless body any longer so I stayed downstairs. Falling to the floor, I began crying uncontrollably. Then I heard him call out, **"God, is it you that has brought tragedy upon this widow whom I am staying with, causing her son to die?"**

He then cried out three times, **"Oh Lord, my God, please return life to this boy."**

Everything then became silent. Now Elijah seemed to be sobbing. Apparently, all hope was now gone. A few moments later, I could hear the creaking sound the stairs always made when going up or down them. I thought, it must be Elijah coming down to deliver the bad news. As I looked up, he had my son in his arms. Tears welled up in his eyes and ran down his cheeks. There was a smile on his face.

I got up and walked over to him. He stretched out his arms, handed my son to me and said, **"Look, your son is alive!"**

Shocked and overjoyed, I declared, **"Now I know that you, Elijah, are a true man of God."**

Through the Prophet Elijah, God had built my faith in him not once, but twice. Surely, I will trust the Lord God of Israel all the days of my life for all that he has done for me.

Review Time

- 1.) Where did today's story take place? **Zarephath**
- 2.) What was the name of the prophet in today's story? **Elijah**
- 3.) What was going on in Zarephath in today's story? **A great famine.**
- 4.) Where was Elijah before he went to Zarephath? **Living down by a brook.**
- 5.) Why did Elijah leave the brook to go to Zarephath? **Because it ran dry.**
- 6.) What was Elijah wearing when he showed up in Zarephath? **A blue cloak and a purple cape.**
- 7.) What did God command the widow to do in today's story? **Give Elijah a place to stay and feed him too.**
- 8.) What was the widow planning to do before Elijah showed up? **Make bread from the last of her flour and oil so she and her son could have one last meal.**
- 9.) Why didn't the widow want to feed Elijah? **Because she only had enough for one last meal for her and her son.**
- 10.) What did Elijah ask the widow for when he first saw her? **For water and bread.**
- 11.) What did the widow do when Elijah asked her to make him bread? **At first, she objected, then she went home, made it and served it to him with a cup of water.**
- 12.) Where did Elijah stay when he went to Zarephath? **In the upper room of the widow's house.**
- 13.) What strange thing began happening with the flour and oil in the widow's two jars? **Each day, they were filled with just enough for her, her son and Elijah.**
- 14.) What happened to the widow's son in today's story? **He got sick and died.**
- 15.) What did the widow do when her son died? **She called for Elijah.**
- 16.) What did Elijah do when he saw that the widow's son was dead? **He took her son to the upper room and prayed over him.**
- 17.) What happened to the widow's son after Elijah prayed for him? **He came back to life.**

18.) How did the widow feel about Elijah when her son died? **She thought that Elijah had something to do with it because of her past sins.**

19.) How did the widow feel about Elijah when her son came back to life? **She declared that he was a man of God.**

20.) What did the widow decide about God after her son returned to life? **To trust him for the rest of her life.**

Let's Talk



1.) How difficult would it be to surrender the last of your food to a total stranger, even if God told you to do it?

2.) What would it be like to live every day with just enough to make it through?

3.) How has this story changed the attitude you will have when you don't have very much?

Swords Up

Each student must raise their Bible over their head until a Bible verse is called out. Once finding it, they are to stand up and read it out loud when called upon. If they get it right, congratulate them, otherwise call upon the next person that stood up.

Verses to Find:

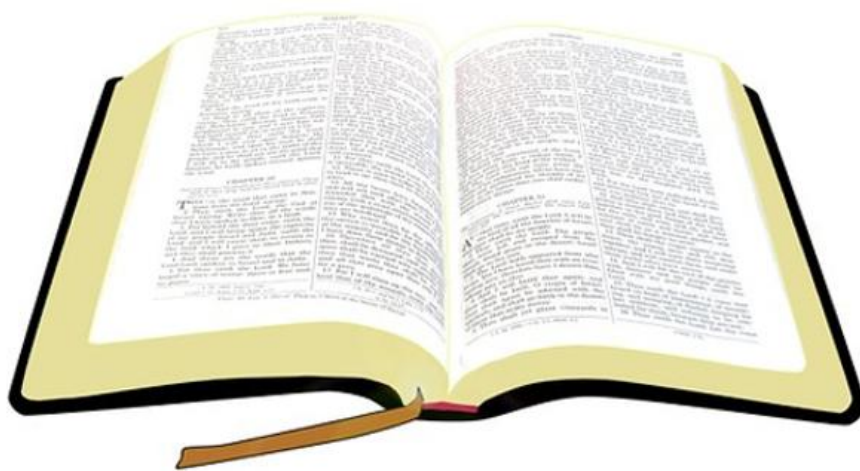
1 Timothy 5:3

Isaiah 1:17

James 1:27

Exodus 22:22

Mark 12:42



Activity Time

The Building of a Widow's Faith

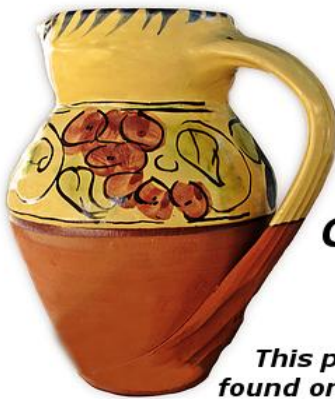
S E B B R I S P N J
W L L W R T F M T Y
F A M I N E H P A O
A E Y D J W A T E R
I F L O M A I D A A
T P L W E N H G W I
H P R O P H E T D N
K I B C U N U Y C V
F H N R T R U S T N
C F Y A W H C C U K

Word Bank:

***Widow
Elijah
Rain
Trust***

***Faith
Famine
Flour***

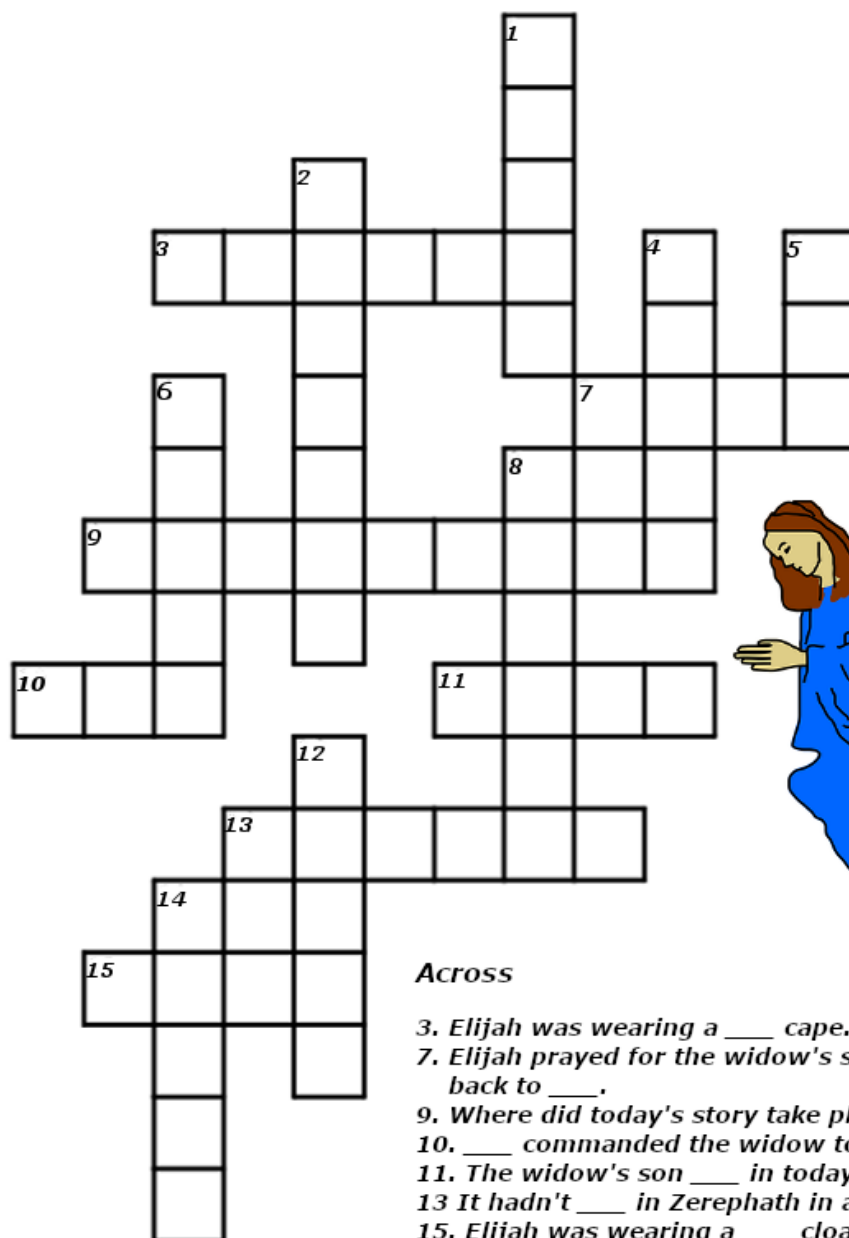
***Water
Prophet
Bread***



***Can you find all 10 Words
in the Puzzle above?***

*This puzzle was created using RIF's Puzzle Creator,
found on Literacy Central (www.rif.org/literacy-central).*

The Building of a Widow's Faith



Across

3. Elijah was wearing a ____ cape.
7. Elijah prayed for the widow's son and he came back to ____.
9. Where did today's story take place?
10. ____ commanded the widow to feed Elijah.
11. The widow's son ____ in today's story.
- 13 It hadn't ____ in Zerephath in a long time.
15. Elijah was wearing a ____ cloak.

DOWN

1. Elijah stayed in the ____ room at the widow's house.
2. Elijah was a ____.
4. God built up the widow's ____.
5. How many children did the widow have?
6. What Elijah requested the widow to make for him.
8. In today's story, there was a ____ in the land.
12. The first thing that Elijah asked for.
14. One of the items that the widow was almost out of.

This puzzle was
created
using RIF's Puzzle
Creator, found
on Literacy Central
(www.rif.org/literacy-central).

Decode the Secret Message

Use this chart to decode the secret message below.

Example: Write A above all spaces that have a 1 underneath them.

**1-A 2-D 3-E 4-G 5-H 6-I 7-L 8-N 9-O
10-P 11-R 12-S 13-T 14-V 15-W**



4 9 2 10 11 9 14 6 2 3 12

1 7 7 15 3 8 3 3 2

Our Big Takeaway:



What's Yours?



The Memory Verse Take Home Page

Philippians 4:19

***And my God will meet all
your needs according to
the riches of his glory
in Christ Jesus.***

Philippians 4:19

***And my God will meet all
your needs according to
the riches of his glory
in Christ Jesus.***

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the riches of his glory
in Christ Jesus.***

Philippians 4:19

***And my God will meet all
your needs according to
the riches of his glory
in Christ Jesus.***

Lesson 43 – Honor Your Father and Mother



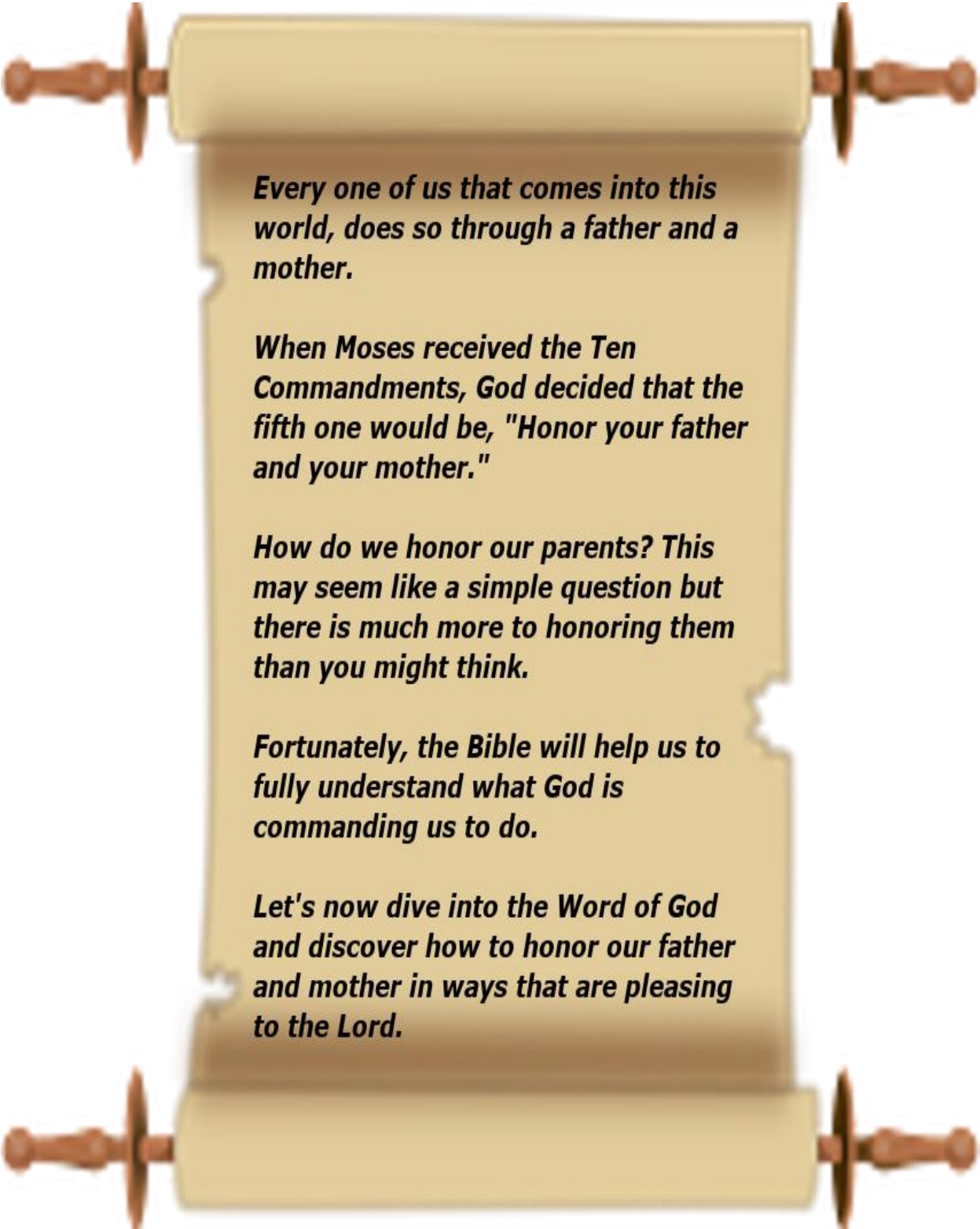
Today's Memory Verse

***"Honor your
father and mother
so that it may go well with
you and that you may enjoy
long life on the earth."***

Ephesians 6:2-3



Introduction



Every one of us that comes into this world, does so through a father and a mother.

When Moses received the Ten Commandments, God decided that the fifth one would be, "Honor your father and your mother."

How do we honor our parents? This may seem like a simple question but there is much more to honoring them than you might think.

Fortunately, the Bible will help us to fully understand what God is commanding us to do.

Let's now dive into the Word of God and discover how to honor our father and mother in ways that are pleasing to the Lord.

How to Honor Your Father and Mother

Obey and Respect Them

Ephesians 6: 1-3

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

Honor means that we think highly of our parents. God felt that it was so important for us to honor and obey our parents that he made it the 5th of the Ten Commandments.

If you honor your father and mother, you may enjoy a long life on the earth that is filled with blessings.

Just before John's parents left for work one morning, his father said to him, "Son, I couldn't help noticing that the lawn really needs to be cut. Since you will be home all day, please take care of it. That's all I need you to do, just that one thing."

"Sure dad," he responded, knowing in his heart that he had no intention to obey his father's request. John then spent his entire day laying around and playing video games.

When his parents came home that evening, they were both exhausted and headed for the backyard to unwind. John just laughed to himself as he watched them go by.

As soon as they stepped outside, they notice that their lawn looked just as shabby as ever. John was then grounded. He screamed at them, "You are the worst parents in the world," then ran into his room and slammed the door.

Obey and Respect Them – Discussion Questions

- 1.) What assignment did John's father give him before heading off to work? **He was supposed to cut the lawn.**
- 2.) Did John ever have any intention to obey his father's request? **No, he knew in his heart that he wasn't going to do it as soon as his father gave him his only assignment for the day.**
- 3.) John didn't honor his parents because he didn't respect them. Who can name one of the ways that John didn't respect his parents?
 - A.) He never had any intention to obey his father's request.**
 - B.) He laughed at both of his parents as they went outside because he knew what they were about to discover.**
 - C.) He screamed at them when they punished him for his disobedience.**
 - D.) He insulted them by saying "You are the worst parents in the world."**
 - E.) He slammed his door which further demonstrated his disrespect for them.**
- 4.) If John doesn't change his ways, do you think he is going to live a long life full of blessings? **No.**
- 5.) Which commandment did John break because of his disobedience and actions? **The fifth commandment – Honor your father and mother.**
- 6.) Not only were John's parents hurt by his disobedience and actions. Who else do you think he hurt? **God.**

Listen to Them

James 1:19

My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.

It's hard to learn if we are not listening!

When we are speaking, we are not listening and may even say something we wish we hadn't to our father or mother. When we quickly become angry, we also are not listening and sometimes do things that we later regret.

Proverbs 13:1

A wise son heeds his father's instruction, but a mocker does not respond to rebukes. (A mocker is an unwise, disobedient son.)

I was the best hitter on my baseball team. My parents never missed an opportunity to see me play. They would jump up out of their seats each time I crushed another ball, sending it over the fence and into the parking lot.

Rounding the bases, I would always point and laugh at the pitcher and do this spin move I came up with, touching down on each base. The whole team be waiting to greet me at home plate.

After each game, my father would tell me how talented I was, then quote Proverbs 16:18 which reads, "Pride goes before Destruction". I was so full of myself that I refused to listen to him. Surely God wasn't going to humble me.

That year, we went undefeated and were in the championship game. It was the 1st inning and I was up to bat. The pitcher threw the first pitch way outside so I couldn't hit it. I didn't like that, so when he did it again, I leaned out and hit that ball as hard as I could with the very tip of the bat. It sailed over the wall.

As always, I celebrated. Coming up on third base, I did my spin move, landed awkwardly and heard a pop. I dropped to the ground and grabbed my knee.

The game was over for me that day. My team lost and I didn't even get credit for the home run since I never touched home plate. I now laid in a hospital bed, awaiting surgery and thinking about how foolish I had been. From now on, things will be different. I will listen to my parents. After all, they are much wiser than me!

Listen to Them – Discussion Questions

- 1.) When we are too busy talking, what are we not doing? **Listening.**
- 2.) When we are too busy talking, what might we say? **Something we will regret later.**
- 3.) When we quickly become angry, what are we not doing? **Listening.**
- 4.) When we quickly become angry, what might we do? **Something we will regret later.**
- 5.) In the story you just heard, what problem did the boy struggle with? **Pride.**
- 6.) What did his father tell him after each game? **That he was very talented but full of pride. He would quote Proverbs 16:18 (Pride goes before Destruction.).**
- 7.) How did the boy receive his father's words for him? **He was so full of himself that he wouldn't listen.**
- 8.) What happened to the boy in the championship game? **He hurt his knee in the middle of his celebration.**
- 9.) What did the boy realize after he hurt his knee? **That he should have listened to his father.**
- 10.) What did the boy decide to do from that day forward while in the hospital? **To listen to his parents because they were much wiser than him.**

Appreciate Them



Be Thankful for all your Parents do for You.

Who can name something that your parents do for you?

Examples: Feed you, do your laundry, help you with your homework...

What are some ways to show your parents that you appreciate them?

Examples: Thank them, hug them...

Be Proud of Them

Proverbs 17:6

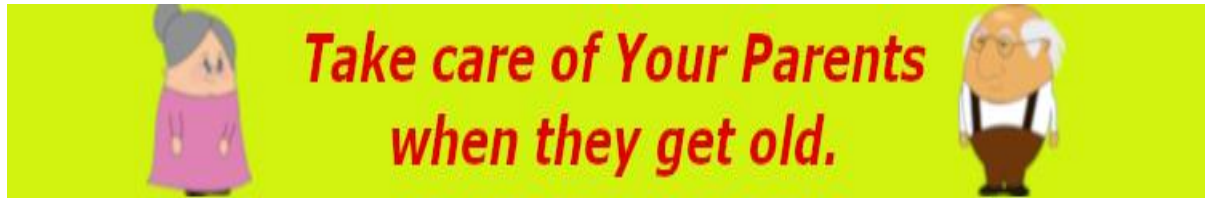
Children's children are a crown to the aged, and parents are the pride of their children.

"Children's children" refers to the children that many of you will have someday when you start your own families.

Proverbs 17:6 tells us that your children will be a "crown to the aged." This means that your children will be like a precious jewel to your parents who will now be Grandpa and Grandma.

Don't miss the last thing this verse says. "Parents are the pride of their children." You honor your father and mother by being proud of them.

Care for Them When they are Old



Someday, everyone will get old. That means your parents will too.

They may then need your help just as you now need theirs.

Isn't that amazing how our roles will then be reversed?

Who can name some ways to care for your parents when they become old and need your assistance?

Examples: Visit them, take them to their doctor's appointments...

Swords Up

Each student must raise their Bible over their head until a Bible verse is called out. Once finding it, they are to stand up and read it out loud when called upon. If they get it right, congratulate them, otherwise call upon the next person that stood up.

Verses to Find:

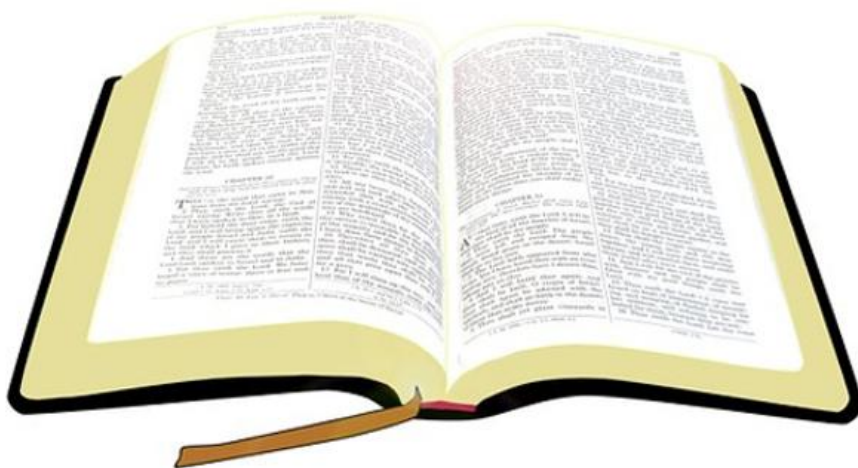
Ephesians 6:1-3

Deuteronomy 5:16

Matthew 19:19

Proverbs 1:8

James 1:19



Activity Time

N N O I T C E R R O C
A M D N A R G R C V C
P N K O L C R N A G T
P U J E A I E J S J F
R W W E O U S A O T S
E J D H D C P T B R D
C I M A I D E J E T D
I H V K N T C H Y N N
A N D A F A T H E R O
T E R O N O H U U R E
E G A J M Y L Y O E J

Word Bank:

Mother	Respect
Father	Appreciate
Obey	Listen
Grandma	Correction
Grandpa	Honor

**Can You Find
all 10?**



This puzzle was created using RIF's Puzzle Creator,
found on Literacy Central (www.rif.org/literacy-central).

Can you find 7 differences between these 2 pictures?



Our Big Takeaway:



What's Yours?



The Memory Verse Take Home Page

Ephesians 6:2-3

"Honor your father and mother so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

Ephesians 6:2-3

"Honor your father and mother so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

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Ephesians 6:2-3

"Honor your father and mother so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

Ephesians 6:2-3

"Honor your father and mother so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."

Lesson 67 – A Voice Calling in the Wilderness



Today's Memory Verse and Bible Story Location

***And so
John the Baptist
appeared in the wilderness,
preaching a baptism
of repentance for the
forgiveness of sins.***

Mark 1:4



***Today's Story is
Based On:***

Matthew 3:1-17

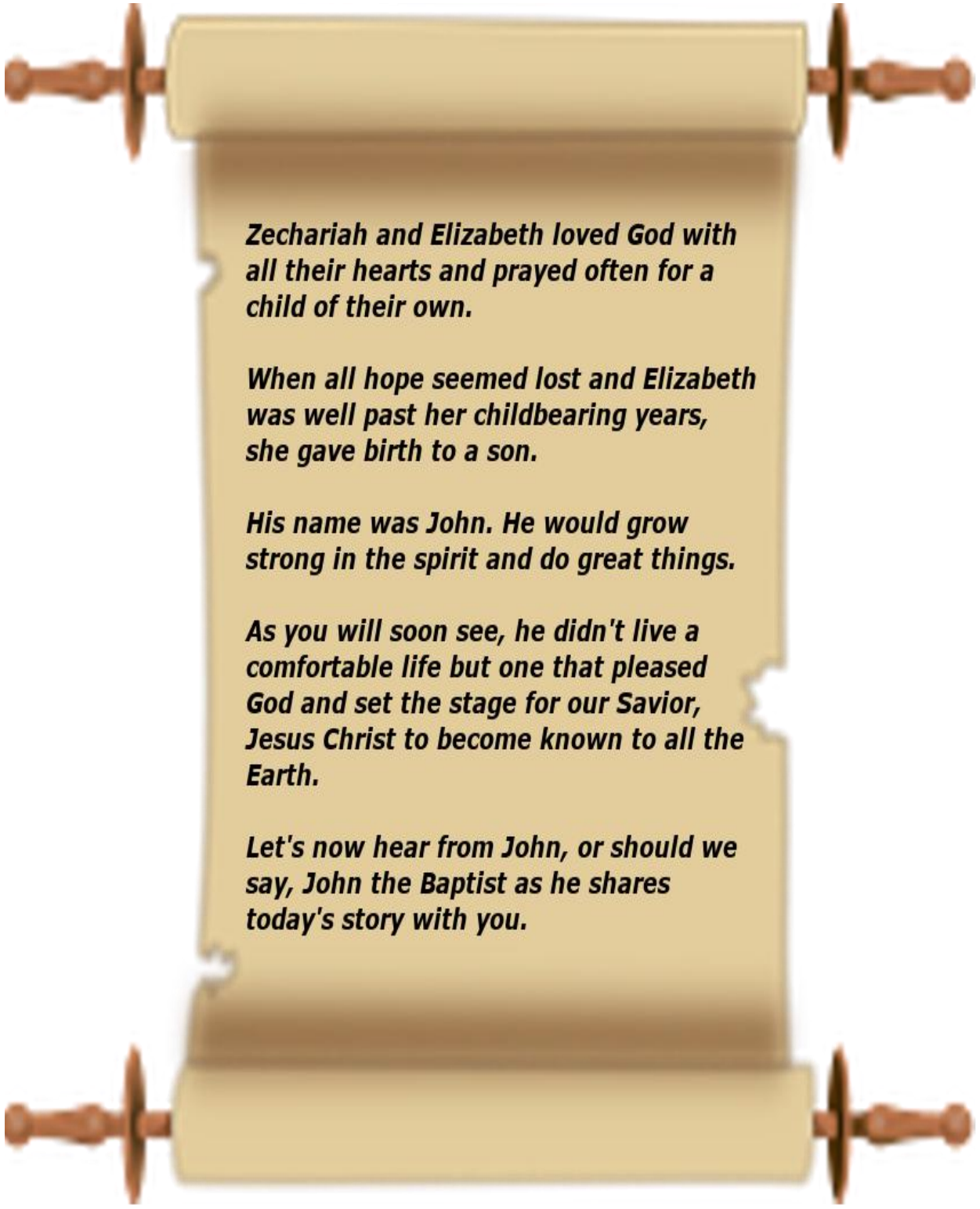
Mark 1:1-11

Luke 1: 13, 15 & 41

Luke 3:1-18 21-23

John 1:15-34

Introduction

A scroll with a light beige background and a darker beige border. The scroll is held by four wooden pegs, two on the left and two on the right. The text is written in a bold, italicized font.

Zechariah and Elizabeth loved God with all their hearts and prayed often for a child of their own.

When all hope seemed lost and Elizabeth was well past her childbearing years, she gave birth to a son.

His name was John. He would grow strong in the spirit and do great things.

As you will soon see, he didn't live a comfortable life but one that pleased God and set the stage for our Savior, Jesus Christ to become known to all the Earth.

Let's now hear from John, or should we say, John the Baptist as he shares today's story with you.

Who Is the Messiah?



Messiah - the King promised in the Old Testament that would save the Jewish Nation. We know him today as Jesus.

Story Time

The calling of God has always been on my life. He filled me with the Holy Spirit before I was born. According to my mother, I even jumped for joy in her womb when she heard the voice of Mary, the mother of Jesus.

The prophet Isaiah had spoken of me long ago when he declared that I would be a voice calling out in the wilderness to prepare the way for the Messiah.

When the time was right, the Lord sent me out to the people that lived in the cities and towns that were scattered around the Jordan River. I preached to them about a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. You may wonder; what is that?

Well, it's actually a lot simpler than it may sound. I was to challenge the people to confess and turn away from their sins, then be baptized in the Jordan River. This would prepare their hearts for the one greater than I who was yet to come.

There were some who thought I was out of my mind because I lived alone in the wilderness and ate locusts and wild honey for all my meals. Yes, breakfast, lunch and dinner! To be truthful with you, the locusts were really good when you cooked them over an open fire and dipped their crispy heads in a bowl of honey!

I wore clothes made of camel's hair that became very itchy at times. Often, I would loosen the leather belt I wore around my waist so I could be a little more comfortable.

It didn't take long for crowds of people to gather down by the Jordan River to listen to my teachings, repent of their sins and be baptized.

One day, the Pharisees and the Sadducees showed up. They were two religious groups that didn't care much about God. They seemed to only be concerned with appearing to be holy when people were watching them. They were now upset with me because their followers had left them to hear the words that God had put on my heart.

As I saw them coming, I shouted, **"You poisonous snakes! Show me some fruit by the way you are living that will prove that you have changed your ways. Don't say that you are righteous because Abraham is your father. Every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown in the fire."**

Not knowing how to respond to me, they quickly left. Shaken by the harsh words I had for the Pharisees and the Sadducees, the people asked, **"Teacher, what shall we do so we may produce good fruit?"**



I answered, **“If you have two shirts, give one away to the person who doesn’t have any to wear. Share the food you have with those that have none. If you are a tax collector, don’t insist on more money than what you are required to collect. For those of you who are soldiers, don’t take money from anyone by force or false accusations and be satisfied with what you earn.”**

As time went on, the people began to wonder in their hearts if I could be the Messiah. After all that I had taught them, I was surprised that they considered that to even be a remote possibility. Finally, I said to them, **“I am not the Messiah. I merrily baptize you with water for the forgiveness of your sins. He who comes after me is so powerful that I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”**

It wasn’t long before the Jewish leaders sent some of the priests and Levites down to see me. They also wanted to know who I was. After assuring them that I was not the Messiah, they asked, **“So then, are you Elijah?”**

I replied, **“I am not.”**

“Well then, who are you,” they responded. **“Please give us an answer that we can take back to those who sent us.”**

Looking upon them, I quoted the words of Isaiah the prophet. **“I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way for the Lord.’”**

The Pharisees who were among them now had another question for me. **“Why then do you baptize if you are not the Messiah or Elijah?”**

“God has called me to baptize those who have confessed and repented of their sins,” I responded. **“Their hearts are being prepared for the one who is much greater than myself.”**

Having no further questions, they headed back to their leaders in Jerusalem.

The next day, I saw Jesus coming towards me as I was standing in the Jordan River. Immediately I declared, **“Behold, it’s the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world! This is the Messiah who existed long before me and is now being revealed to all of Israel.”**



He continued coming my way until he was standing right in front of me. He then asked me to baptize him. Stunned by his request, I replied, **“I am the one who needs to be baptized by you, so why are you coming to me?”**

Jesus answered, **“Let it be so, for we must carry out all that God requires of us.”**

I then baptized him. As Jesus came up out of the water, heaven opened and I saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and resting upon him. A thunderous voice from above then sounded, **“This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”**

I had been obedient to God’s calling and prepared the way for Jesus. My ministry was now coming to an end and his was just beginning.

Review Time

- 1.) What was the name of the great man of God that shared today's story? **John the Baptist.**
- 2.) What were the names of John the Baptist's parents? **Zechariah and Elizabeth.**
- 3.) Why was it so unusual for Elizabeth to have a child? **Because she was beyond her childbearing years.**
- 4.) What did John the Baptist do in Elizabeth's womb when she heard the voice of Mary, the mother of Jesus? **He leaped for joy.**
- 5.) What was the name of the prophet who spoke about John the Baptist long ago? **Isaiah.**
- 6.) The prophet Isaiah wrote that John the Baptist was a voice calling from where? **The wilderness.**
- 7.) Where did God send John the Baptist? **He sent him to the cities and towns along the Jordan River.**
- 8.) What did John's preaching cause many of the people to do? **It caused them to repent of their sins and be baptized.**
- 9.) Who is the Messiah? **Jesus, who was promised in the Old Testament.**
- 10.) What did John the Baptist eat? **Locusts and wild honey.**
- 11.) What did John the Baptist wear? **Clothes made of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist.**
- 12.) What two religious groups came down to see John the Baptist? **The Pharisees and the Sadducees.**
- 13.) What did John the Baptist call the Pharisees and Sadducees? **He called them poisonous snakes.**
- 14.) What were the Pharisees and Sadducees most concerned about? **Appearing holy when the people were watching them.**
- 15.) Why were the Pharisees and Sadducees angry in today's story? **Because many of their followers had left them to follow John the Baptist.**

16.) Who sent some priests and Levites down to try to find out who John the Baptist was? **The Jewish leaders in Jerusalem.**

17.) Who did John the Baptist see coming towards him one day? **Jesus.**

18.) What did Jesus ask John the Baptist to do? **He asked John the Baptist to baptize him.**

19.) What did John the Baptist see when Jesus came up out of the water after being baptized? **He saw heaven open and the Spirit of God descend like a dove and rest upon Jesus.**

20.) What did John the Baptist hear when Jesus came up out of the water after being baptized? **A thunderous voice from above that said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."**

Let's Talk



- 1.) What do you think it would be like if all you had to eat were locusts and wild honey? Could you imagine what the menu at your local restaurant would look like? (BBQ Locust, Fried Locust, Grilled Locust...).**
- 2.) Do you ever complain about the clothes that your parents provide for you? Aren't you glad that they are not made out of itchy camel's hair?**
- 3.) How awesome would it have been to be there when John the Baptist baptized Jesus? Would you have been excited, afraid or amazed at what you saw and heard?**

Swords Up

Each student must raise their Bible over their head until a Bible verse is called out. Once finding it, they are to stand up and read it out loud when called upon. If they get it right, congratulate them, otherwise call upon the next person that stood up.

Verses to Find:

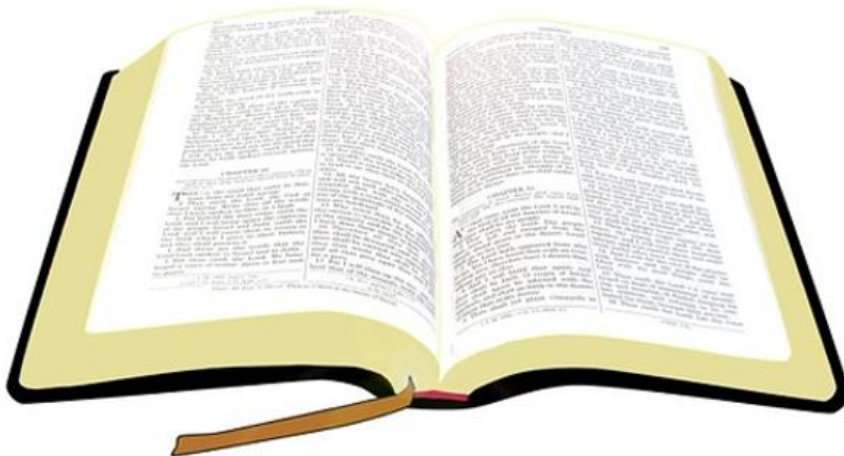
Luke 1:80

Malachi 3:1

Mark 1:4

Isaiah 40:3

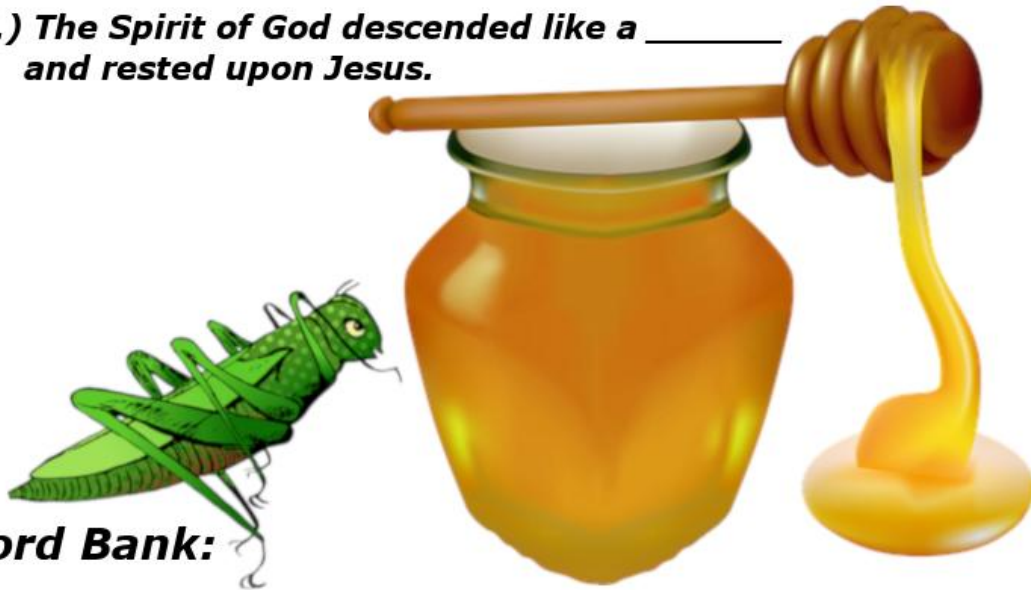
Matthew 3:4



Activity Time

Complete each sentence, filling in the missing word from the Word Bank shown at the bottom of this page. Words can only be used once. Some words won't be used at all.

- 1.) John the Baptist ate _____ and Wild Honey.
- 2.) John the Baptist called the Pharisees and the Sadducees poisonous _____.
- 3.) _____ was John the Baptist's mother.
- 4.) The people who listened and received John the Baptist's message were baptized in the _____ River.
- 5.) The Spirit of God descended like a _____ and rested upon Jesus.



Word Bank:

Feather	Locusts	Dove	Hamburgers
Sarah	Lizards	Nuts	Scorpions
Olive	Jordan	Beetles	Butterfly
Snakes	Mary	Nile	Mississippi
Almonds	Ruth	Esther	Elizabeth

The Big Race

Who can unscramble the letters on the 9 honey jars the fastest?



Our Big Takeaway:



What's Yours?



The Memory Verse Take Home Page

Mark 1:4

***And so John the Baptist
appeared in the
wilderness, preaching a
baptism of repentance for
the forgiveness of sins.***

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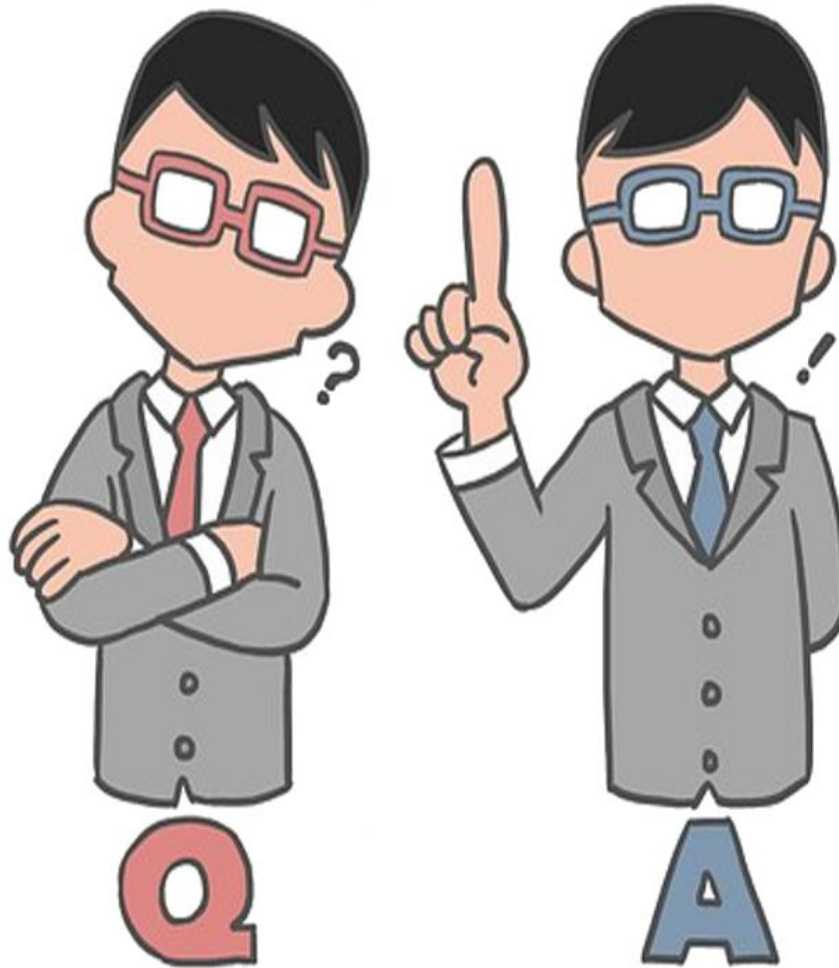
Mark 1:4

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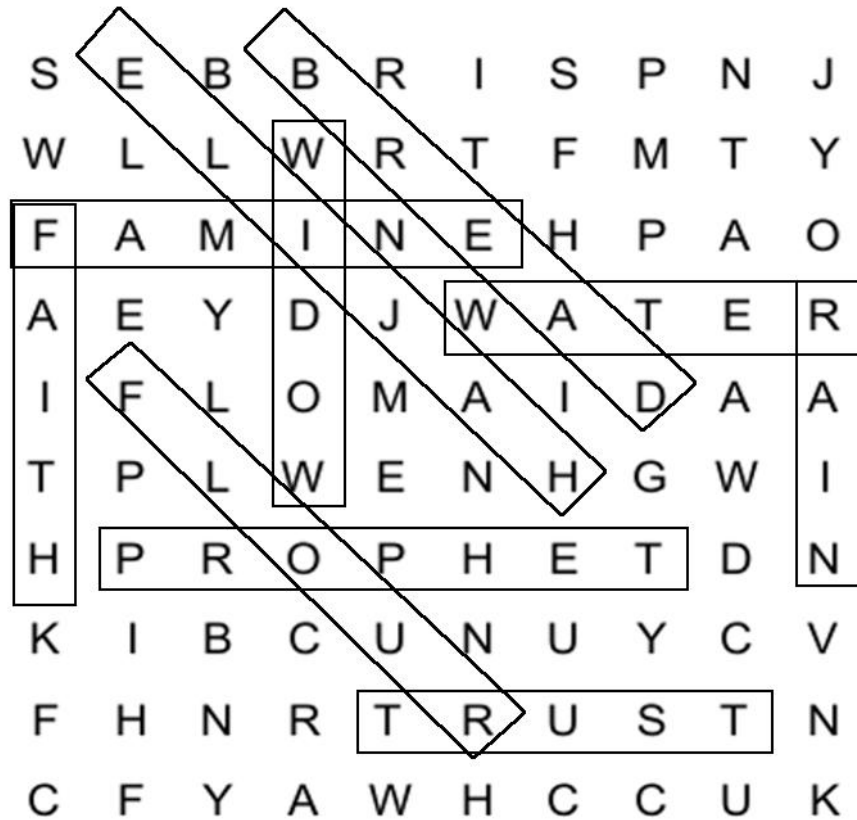
Mark 1:4

***And so John the Baptist
appeared in the
wilderness, preaching a
baptism of repentance for
the forgiveness of sins.***

Answer Keys



Lesson 1 – The Building of a Widow’s Faith

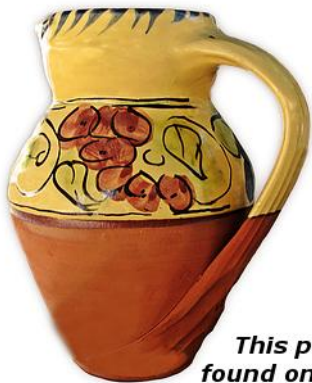


Word Bank:

Widow
Elijah
Rain
Flour
Trust

Faith
Famine
Flour

Water
Prophet
Bread



**Can you find all 10 Words
in the Puzzle above?**

*This puzzle was created using RIF's Puzzle Creator,
found on Literacy Central (www.rif.org/literacy-central).*

Crossword Puzzle Answers:

Across:

- 3 - Purple**
- 7 - Life**
- 9 - Zerephath**
- 10 - God**
- 11 - Died**
- 13 - Rained**
- 15 - Blue**

Down:

- 1 - Upper**
- 2 - Prophet**
- 4 - Faith**
- 5 - One**
- 6 - Bread**
- 8 - Famine**
- 12 - Water**
- 14 - Flour**



Decode the Secret Message

Use this chart to decode the secret message below.

Example: Write A above all spaces that have a 1 underneath them.

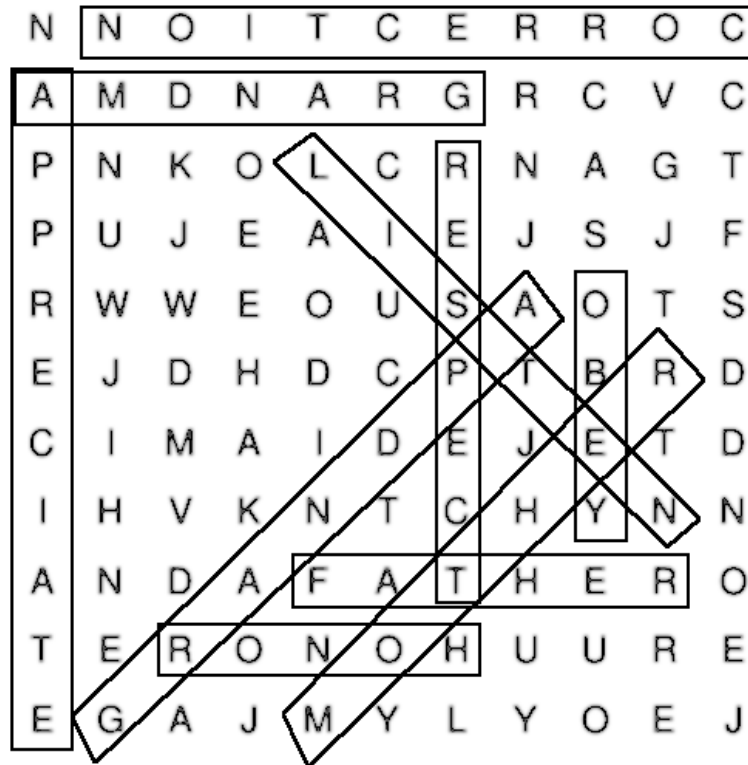
1-A 2-D 3-E 4-G 5-H 6-I 7-L 8-N 9-O
10-P 11-R 12-S 13-T 14-V 15-W



G	O	D	P	R	O	V	I	D	E	S
<u>4</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>12</u>

A	L	L	W	E	N	E	E	D
<u>1</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>

Lesson 43 – Honor Your Father and Mother



Word Bank:

Mother	Respect
Father	Appreciate
Obey	Listen
Grandma	Correction
Grandpa	Honor

**Can You Find
all 10?**



This puzzle was created using RIF's Puzzle Creator,
found on Literacy Central (www.rif.org/literacy-central).

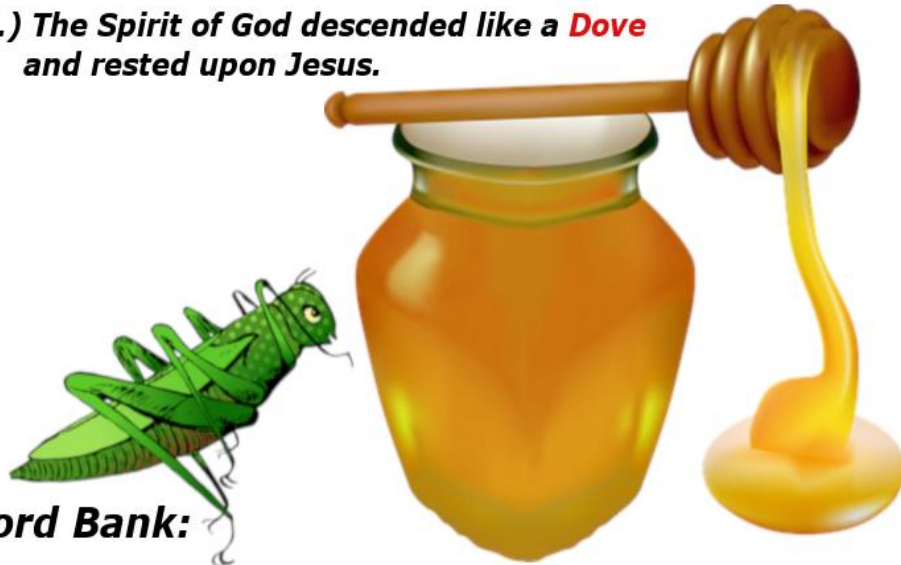
The 7 Differences Between the 2 Pictures

- 1.) The Airplane changed directions.**
- 2.) The woman's skirt changed colors.**
- 3.) The boy's t-shirt now has an emoji on it.**
- 4.) The cloud is spitting out rain.**
- 5.) The door on the kid's playhouse is a different style.**
- 6.) The sun is smaller.**
- 7.) A light is on in the kid's playhouse.**

Lesson 67 – A Voice Calling in the Wilderness

Complete each sentence, filling in the missing word from the Word Bank shown at the bottom of this page. Words can only be used once. Some words won't be used at all.

- 1.) John the Baptist ate **Locusts** and Wild Honey.
- 2.) John the Baptist called the Pharisees and the Sadducees poisonous **Snakes**.
- 3.) **Elizabeth** was John the Baptist's mother.
- 4.) The people who listened and received John the Baptist's message were baptized in the **Jordan** River.
- 5.) The Spirit of God descended like a **Dove** and rested upon Jesus.



Word Bank:

Feather	Locusts	Dove	Hamburgers
Sarah	Lizards	Nuts	Scorpions
Olive	Jordan	Beetles	Butterfly
Snakes	Mary	Nile	Mississippi
Almonds	Ruth	Esther	Elizabeth

The Big Race

***Who can unscramble the letters
on the 9 honey jars the fastest?***

