

Church of God Sunday School

ELIJAH AND THE WIDOW'S SON

1 Kings 17:17-24

A terrible famine had come on the land of Samaria because King Ahab was wicked. He worshiped false gods, especially the idol Baal. God's man, Elijah, had said to King Ahab, "There shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word."

A terrible famine resulted from the long drought of three years. During the drought and famine, God, at some point, sent Elijah to the city of Zarephath, where a widow woman lived with her young son. She took care of Elijah. God also worked a miracle that kept them supplied with food: the meal barrel and oil cruse were never empty.

Sometime after the Lord had worked the miracle of keeping the meal barrel and the oil cruse from going empty, the widow's son became sick. The sickness he had was so serious that he died. Oh, the widow was sad! Her son had died—and she thought it was all Elijah's fault! She went to Elijah and said, "What have I to do with thee, O thou man of God? art thou come unto me to call my sin to remembrance, and to slay my son?"

But it was not Elijah who had caused her son to die. God controls life and death. God was not trying to hurt the woman by taking her son. He just wanted to show her something.

Elijah looked at the grieving mother. He said, "Give me thy son." Elijah took the child out of his mother's arms. He carried the boy up to the loft, to his own room where he stayed.

Elijah laid the boy on his own bed. He began to pray to God, and he climbed up on the bed and laid down on top of the boy! Why? Because a dead body is cold. Elijah was trying to warm the boy's cold body with his own body as he prayed. He stretched himself

out full length on the child three times and cried in a loud voice to God: "O LORD my God, I pray thee, let this child's soul come into him again."

God heard the prayer of Elijah. God returned the soul of the boy to his body. The child started breathing again; he was alive! Elijah took the little boy back to his mother!

Elijah said to the widow woman, "See, thy son liveth." Elijah knew that God had the power to raise her son. Oh, how happy the mother was then when she saw her son alive and well again!

The widow woman must have had some doubts before about Elijah being a man of God, because the woman said to him, "Now by this I know that thou art a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in thy mouth is truth." In other words: "By this I know that you are a true man of God. God really and truly speaks through you."

God used the boy's death and his resurrection (his return to life) to show the widow woman that Elijah was really a true man of God. He spoke the

truth of God, and God listened to him.

After her son was raised to life, the widow believed that Elijah really was God's man, and she believed she could completely trust God's Word too. We should trust that God's way is best also, even when we cannot understand why some things happen. Trust Jesus to do what is right for you.

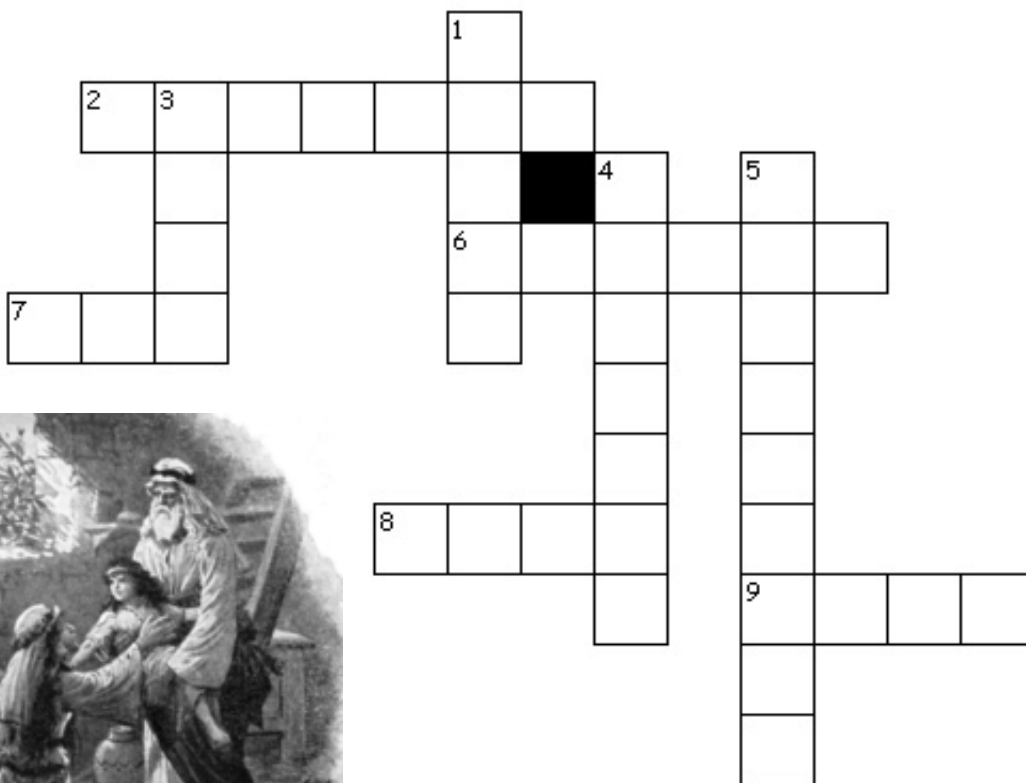
~~~~~  
**MEMORY VERSE:**

*"For thou art my hope, O Lord GOD: thou art my trust from my youth."*

—Psalm 71:5



# Elijah and the Widow's Son



**Across**

- 2. This caused a famine
- 3. The Prophet of God
- 7. He was sick and died
- 8. A false god
- 9. The wicked king

**Down**

- 1. Elijah prayed for the boy \_\_\_\_\_ times
- 4. God performed this
- 5. The city where the widow lived

**Use These Words:**

**Zarephath   Drought   Rain   Baal   Son**

**Miracle   Three   Elijah   Ahab**

# Elijah and the Widow's Son

JIEHAL 

|   |  |  |  |  |  |    |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|----|
|   |  |  |  |  |  |    |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |  | 10 |

The Prophet \_\_\_\_\_

BAHA 

|   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
|   |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |

The wicked King \_\_\_\_\_

ANMEIF 

|  |   |  |   |  |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|--|--|---|
|  |   |  |   |  |  |   |
|  | 8 |  | 6 |  |  | 9 |

A terrible \_\_\_\_\_ came on the land.

ABLA 

|  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
|  |  |  |   |
|  |  |  | 7 |

The king worshiped the idol \_\_\_\_\_.

WOIWD 

|  |  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |   |
|  |  |  |  | 5 |

The woman whose son died was a \_\_\_\_\_.

ONS 

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
|   |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |

Elijah said, "Give me thy \_\_\_\_\_."

LACMIER 

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |

God worked a \_\_\_\_\_.

" 

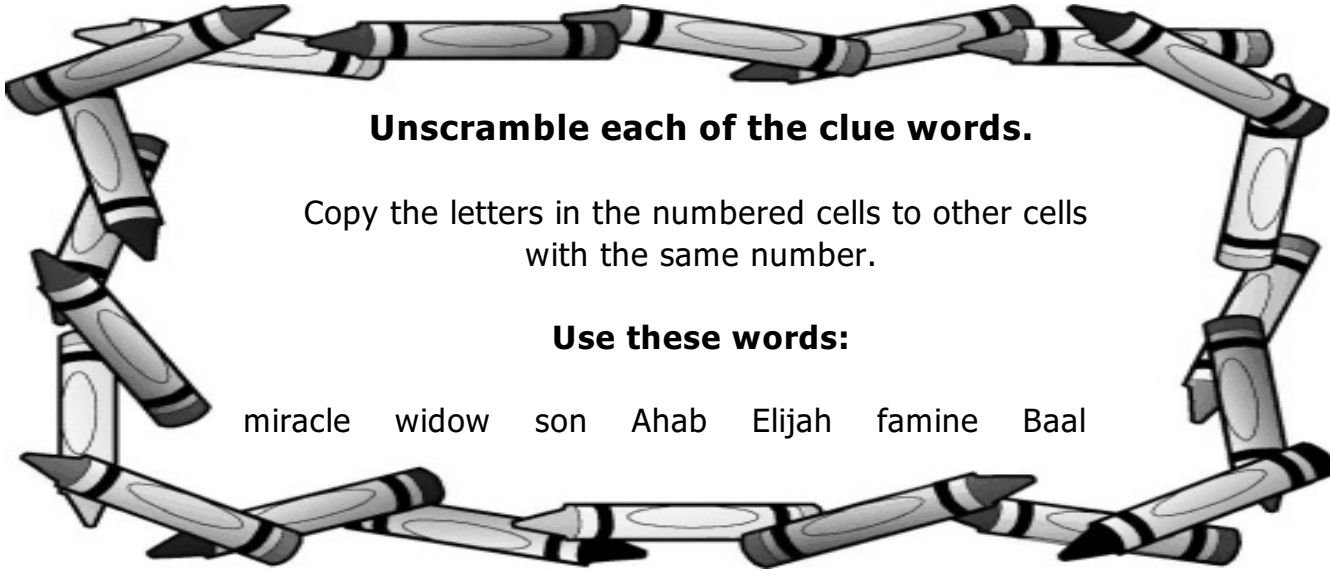
|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
|   |   |   |
| 1 | 2 | 3 |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| T | y |
| 4 |   |

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
|   |   |   |
| 1 | 5 | 6 |

|   |   |   |    |
|---|---|---|----|
|   | V | T |    |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |

 . "



**Unscramble each of the clue words.**

Copy the letters in the numbered cells to other cells with the same number.

**Use these words:**

miracle   widow   son   Ahab   Elijah   famine   Baal



# The Widow's Son Is Made Well