

Speaker : Associate Pastor Richard Yun  
Title : The Path, the Promise, the Provision  
Text : 1 Kings 17:8-16

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## **Introduction**

Before God can mould us, He must first melt us! As we face our times of testing, God is getting us in a position where He can use us in a greater way.

These lessons will help us when we face our times of testing.

### **I. A FRESH PATH (1 Kings 17: 8-11)**

- **The Call (v8)** - As Elijah sat there beside that dried up brook, it must have felt like he had been abandoned by God. Have you ever felt that way?

Dried brooks of life are merely those things which God uses to move us along in His will. He will use the dried up brooks we face to teach us fresh lessons of faith and obedience.

**Genuine faith waits for God to reveal His plans.** It will sit by a dried up brook forever, even if it means death, waiting on the will of God to be revealed.

- **The Command (v9)** - when the Lord does speak to Elijah, He commands him to go to Zarephath. This is a strange command considering the fact that Zarephath is in a Gentile nation. Yet, that is exactly where the Lord sends His prophet!

***Often, the life of faith will lead through difficult pathways.***

- **The Challenge (v9b)**- Notice that again Elijah is told to " ***dwell there*** ". He is to go to Zarephath and stay there until he receives new instructions from the mouth of the Lord.
- **The Comfort (vv10-11)**- When Elijah receives this command, he does not hesitate, he just gets up and goes where God tells him to go.

***Our God is a God who works on both ends of the line.***

The point is this: When your time of need arises, rest assured that your Father has already gone ahead to spread the table of provision in your behalf, **Phil. 4:19.**)

### **II. A FANTASTIC PROMISE (1 Kings 17: 12-15)**

When this widow heard the word of God, she went and did as Elijah had commanded her. It must have took great faith to use the last little bit of meal she had to prepare bread for a total stranger. Yet she did it by faith!

The answer lies in looking beyond your problem and getting your eyes on the Provider, **Heb. 12:1-2! *Real faith knows that God is greater than what the eye can see.***

Real faith knows that God can make the impossible possible, **Heb. 11:1!**)

(The point here is that God's calls on our lives often make demands that are difficult to understand. Why would He call me to do that? Why would the Lord allow that to happen? Why this and why that? However, when God's demands are accompanied by a clear word of God, then we need have no fear, but we can respond in faith, knowing that God will take care of us.)

This is the place that God wants to bring us all to. He wants His Elijahs and His widows to learn to trust Him in every circumstance, regardless of what outward appearances may suggest. ***Faith will call on us to do the unthinkable so that we might receive the impossible!***

### **III. A FABULOUS PROVISION (1 Kings 17: 15-16)**

*When the widow decided to bake that cake for Elijah, she traded the certain for the uncertain and received the impossible in return!*

God honours faith because faith honours God!

#### **Conclusion**

- When God has brought you to the place where you are forced to trust in Him for today's provision, He has brought you to the best place you can be.
- When His path leads to a greater trial, it is a blessing to know that God always takes care of His children. Don't fight Him! Your best course of action is to surrender to His will now!