

ELIJAH AND THE WIDOW

1 Kings 17:1-16 [17-24]



Key Verse:

The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that [God] spoke by Elijah.
1 Kings 17:16

The Point:

God provides for us, often in ways we do not expect.

Making Connections:

God Sightings

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Historical Timelines

Spiritual Practice:

Service



BACKGROUND FOR TEACHERS

Making Connections

After God's promise to David, David sinned. Solomon became the next king, prayed for wisdom, and built and dedicated the temple. Solomon became wealthy and sinned by turning to the gods of his wives. Following this, more kings did evil in the sight of the Lord. The people served other gods, giving Baal and others credit for their provisions. God stopped the rain to show the people who provides water for them.

Story Summary:

The Widow of Zarephath

Elijah the prophet proclaimed God's message to King Ahab that it was not going to rain. Then God led Elijah to a brook so he could drink. God also sent ravens to bring Elijah bread and meat each morning and night. After many days of no rain, the brook dried up.

God sent Elijah to Zarephath, a foreign city that would be unwelcoming to an Israelite. Elijah asked a widow to feed him. He told her to take the little bit of meal (flour) and oil that she had left and make him a little cake. She did, despite having very little food. Day after day, God filled her jars of meal and oil, so she never ran out.

The woman's son became ill until he could not breathe. Elijah carried the boy to his room and cried out to God for help. Because of the healing power of God, the child was brought back to life.

The Point

God provides for us, often in ways we do not expect. When it seems like there is no way to get through a trying situation, we are tempted to complain, withdraw, or give up. However, in the most challenging times, we are able to recognize and be blessed by God's provisions when we take time to look past the situation and look to God. God will provide, even if it is not how we expect it.

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Historical Timelines

Visual timelines can be helpful in understanding biblical passages, especially their relationship with each other and their historical contexts. When we know about the leadership during a particular time or what happened before that time period, what takes place in a particular passage of Scripture is put in context and becomes easier to understand. Without that information, we might misinterpret Scripture.

Spiritual Practice: Service

God provides for us, and in our desire to live a godly life, we can model God's love by providing for others. We may not have the financial means to provide material goods, but service to others is more than handing people gifts. We can provide companionship, comfort, a listening ear, a ride, and more. We can also collect food from others to invite more people to be involved in service.



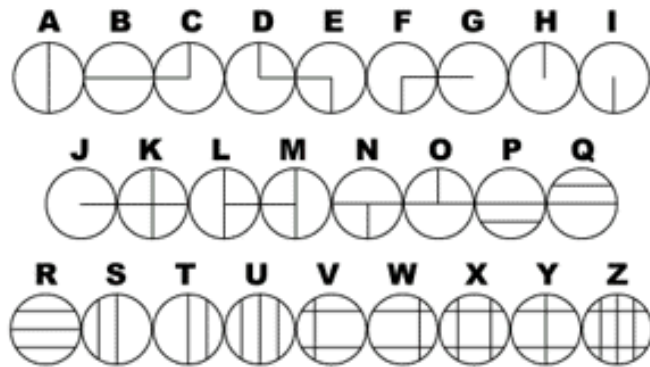
Crack the Code

Elijah

Learn about Elijah in 1 Kings 17: 8-16.

Use the key to help you answer the question below.

K
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Y



What never diminished?



ELIJAH & THE DEAD BOY

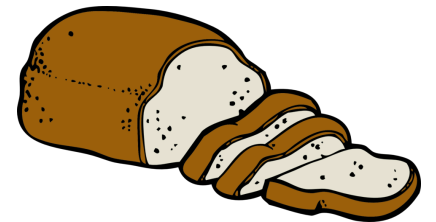


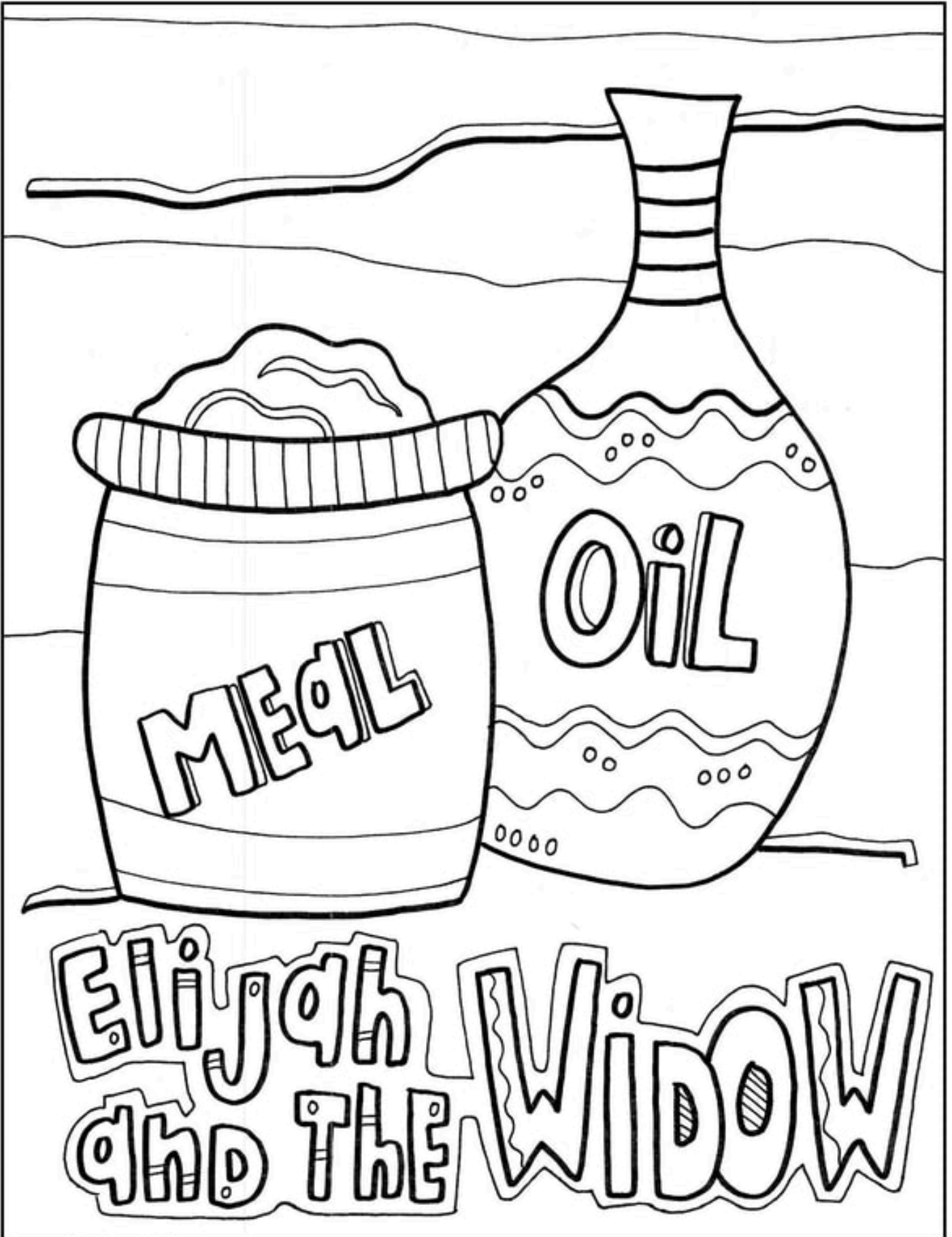
Discover the hidden words.

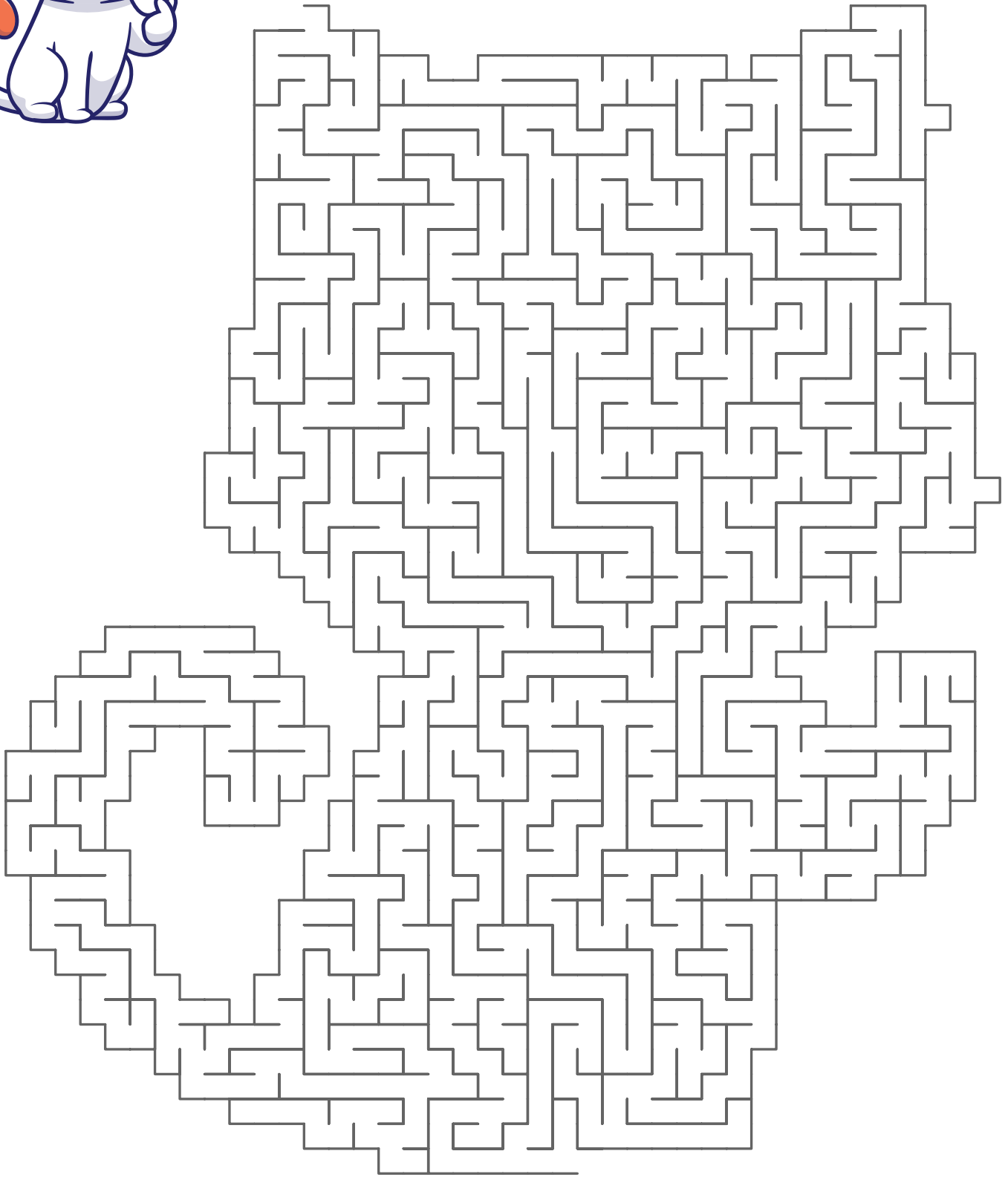
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Word Bank

- | | | |
|--------|-----------|------------|
| GOD | ZAREPHATH | AHAB |
| ELIJAH | DROUGHT | OIL |
| BOY | FAMINE | HEAL |
| DEATH | SINS | STARVATION |



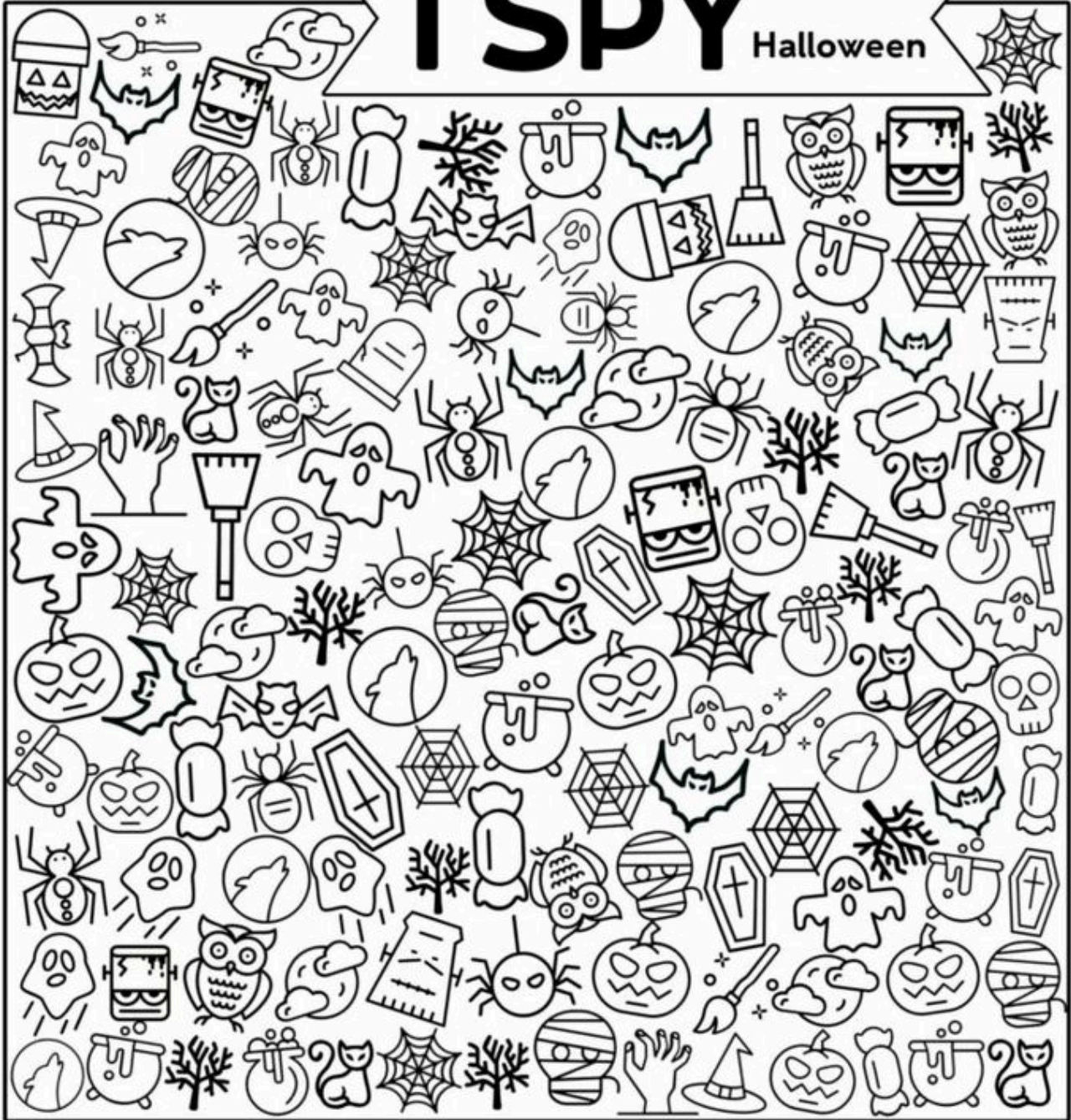




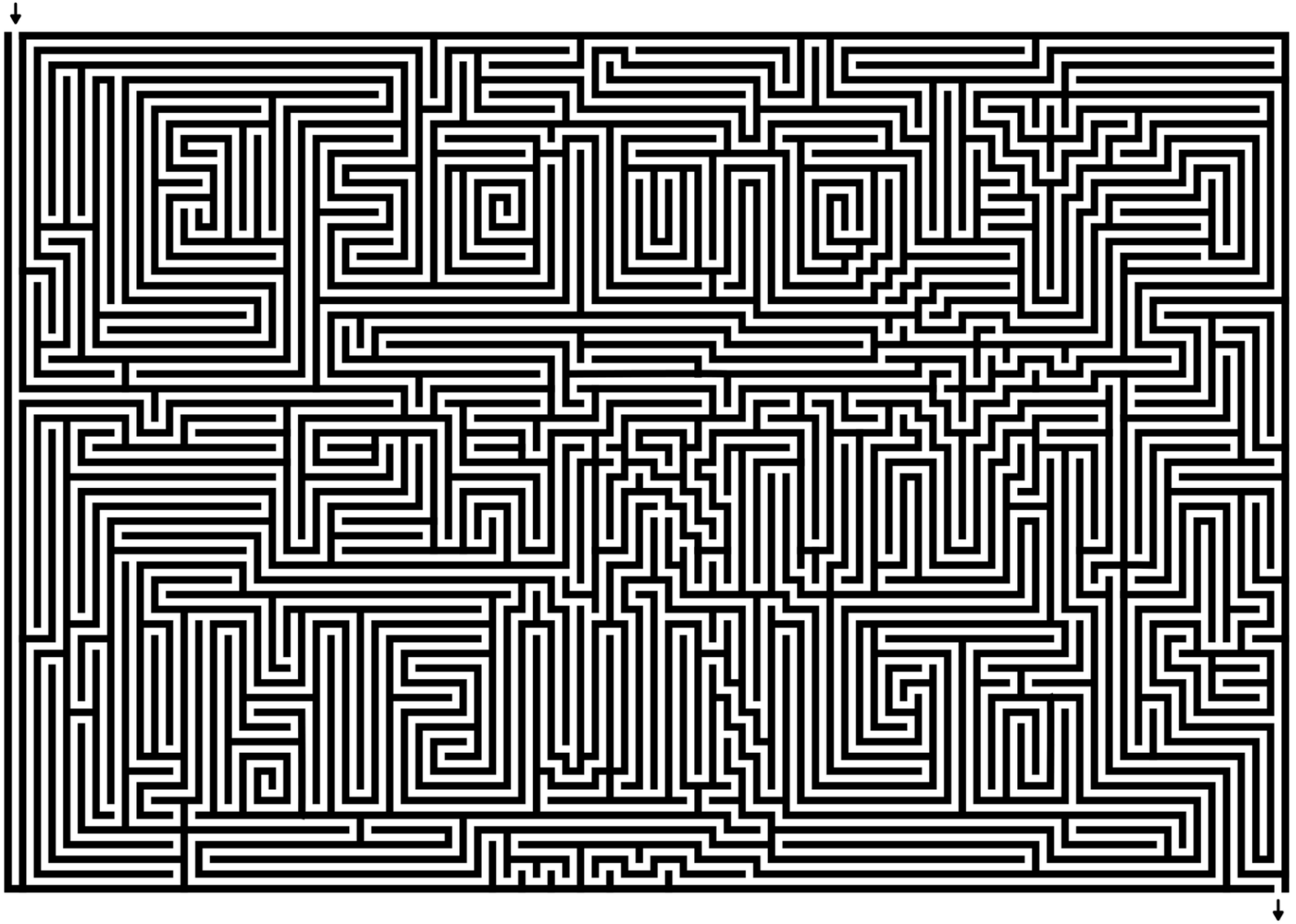
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THE STORY @ HOME

**KIDS
3RD-6TH**

NL

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 3 (2024-2025)

Lesson #3-9
1 Kings 17:1-16 [17-24]

LAST WEEK

Solomon fulfills the prophecy that David's descendant would build a temple for God to dwell within (1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:27-30, 41-43).

THIS WEEK

Elijah performed a miracle for a widow in the town of Zarephath (1 Kings 17:1-16 [17-24]).

THE POINT

God provides for us, often in ways we do not expect.

STORY SUMMARY

Elijah and the Widow

Elijah the prophet proclaimed God's message to King Ahab that it was not going to rain. Then, God led Elijah to a brook. God also provided bread and meat each morning and night. After many days of no rain, the brook dried up. God sent Elijah to a town called Zarephath. Elijah asked a widow there to feed him. Elijah told her to take the little bit of flour and oil that she had left and make him a little cake. She did, despite having very little food. Day after day, God filled her jars of flour and oil, so she never ran out.

NEXT WEEK

Jonah was a prophet whose job was to tell the people of Nineveh to turn towards God and repent (Jonah 1:1-17; 3:1-10; [4:1-11]).

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

Historical Timelines

Visual timelines can be helpful in understanding biblical passages, especially their relationship with each other and their historical contexts. When we know the leadership during a particular time or what happened before that time period, what takes place in a particular passage of Scripture is put in context and becomes easier to understand.

PRACTICE SERVICE

God provides for us, and we can model God's love by providing for others. We may not have the financial needs to provide material goods, but service to others is more than handing people gifts. We can provide companionship, comfort, a listening ear, a ride, and more. As a family, offer to help an older member in your church or neighborhood with some yard work.

Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- ✚ What are the God-sightings in this passage?
- ✚ What happened in this passage that only God could make happen?
- ✚ What in this passage reminds you of God's love?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read 1 Kings 17:1-16 [17-24]

God provided for the widow of Zarephath. What is a need that your family has? Pray together and ask God to provide what you need.

Monday—Read 1 Kings 19:11-18

Elijah met God in the silence. Take a few moments to sit in silence, knowing God is with you.

Tuesday—Read 2 Kings 2:1-12

Elijah ascended to heaven. Look at the clouds and find shapes that look like objects.

Wednesday—Read 2 Kings 4:1-7

Elisha told a woman to gather empty vessels that miraculously filled with oil, so she could pay off her debt. Measure out a quantity of popcorn kernels into a small measuring cup. Pop the popcorn and see how many cups would now be needed to hold all of the popcorn.

Thursday—Read 2 Chronicles 34:1-7

Josiah began his reign when he was only eight, yet became Judah's greatest king simply by seeking God. Brainstorm things that seem simple but can be hard to do.

Friday—Read 2 Chronicles 34:29-33

The people started over in their commitment to the covenant. Work as a family to create, review, or renew rules of the household.

Saturday—Read 2 Chronicles 36:15-21

When under an evil ruler who would not listen to God, Jerusalem was captured. Build a city out of blocks or other building toys. Take a picture and admire your work. Destroy the city.