

The Parchment



Studies for making fully devoted followers of Christ

August 23, 2020

The Test 1 Kings 17:17-24 Pastor Kirk Gambrell

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Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This week we look at the second part of 1 Kings chapter 17. Elijah is staying with a widow while Israel is experiencing a severe drought. The Widow's son gets sick and dies. This might be counter to what we would think would happen when God uses the widow to take Elijah into her home. It would be very easy to question God if you were the widow or Elijah. God is clearly working through them and then the most important thing in the widow's life is taken away. This is an enormous trial for her life. Join us this week as we talk about how and why God allows these challenging trials to happen in our life.



1 Kings 17:17-24 NASB

Elijah Raises the Widow's Son

¹⁷ Now it came about after these things that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became sick; and his sickness was so severe that there was no breath left in him. ¹⁸ So she said to Elijah, "What do I have to do with you, O man of God? You have come to me to bring my iniquity to remembrance and to put my son to death!" ¹⁹ He said to her, "Give me your son." Then he took him from her bosom and carried him up to the upper room where he was living, and laid him on his own bed. ²⁰ He called to the LORD and said, "O LORD my God, have You also brought

calamity to the widow with whom I am staying, by causing her son to die?" ²¹ Then he stretched himself upon the child three times, and called to the LORD and said, "O LORD my God, I pray You, let this child's life return to him." ²² The LORD heard the voice of Elijah, and the life of the child returned to him and he revived. ²³ 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 is alive." ²⁴ Then the woman said to Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God and that the word of the LORD in your mouth is truth."

o EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?
5. What is emphasized?
6. Is there anything in these passages that is related to other areas of scripture?
7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

🕒 **EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation)** (For Community Group discussion)
What does God MEAN?

8. Why is Elijah staying with this widow?

9. What reason does the widow give for her son dying?

10. How does the son dying effect Elijah's situation?

11. What indicates the widow has some faith in Elijah and God?

12. Why do you think God allowed the son to die?

③ **EMBRACE His Word (Application)** (For Community Group discussion)

Why does this MATTER to me?

13. Elijah and the widow were tested by the death of her son. Does God test us today? Why?

14. What are some benefits to trials and tests that happen to us?

15. Why does a loving God allow people to live through difficult times?

16. How do you think trials will affect the church?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to **KNOW**, to **FEEL**, and to **DO**...

Sermon Notes