

Elijah/Elisha – Standing Alone
Week 13 – Protection and Provision

Transition: Last week our study focused on a wealthy woman who befriended Elisha and was generous to him. When tragedy suddenly struck, she knew what to do...ask the prophet Elisha to call on his God to rescue her family.

Context: This week our Scripture passage is centered on two miraculous short stories that are packed with meaning for us today. Namely, that God both protects and provides for His beloved people.

Opening Questions:

- When have you been in a dire situation and gotten yourself into deeper trouble by not asking for help? Share the story. Is asking for help easy or difficult for you and why?
- Has God ever miraculously provided for you? What happened? How did it change you?

Scripture/Storying: 2 Kings 4:38-44

Discipleship Questions:

- What is your overall reaction to this passage? What impression does it make on you and why?
- In the first story (4:38-41), a dire situation leads an ignorant man to make a foolish decision. What do you learn from his foolishness?
- In what other ways does God protect His people from their ignorant foolishness? How has He protected you from your own ignorant foolishness?
- In the second story (4:42-44), an unnamed man gives bread made from his firstfruits harvest to Elisha and the sons of the prophets. What is the firstfruits offering and why is it significant to this story? Click [here](https://www.gotquestions.org/firstfruits-offering.html) for more info.
- In what ways does this passage remind you of Jesus?
- What does this passage reveal to you about God as Provider? Why does God not provide food for His people everywhere all the time?
- What is the Holy Spirit teaching you through this story? How does it impact the way you think and live?

Prayer time: This week we are praying for David and Katya Snead, missionaries to Ukraine that Providence supports.

- Pray for peace, victory, and safety for those in Ukraine.
- Pray for David & Katya Snead that the Lord will surround them with peace that surpasses all understanding, along with strength in Christ as they continue to disciple others in Ukraine.

* <https://www.gotquestions.org/firstfruits-offering.html>