



LIVING BY FAITH (SERIES)

1. Faith that is Alive
2. Faith That Obey
3. **Faith that Serves**

1 Kings 17:8-16 (NKJV)

1 Kings 17:15 (NKJV) - "So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah; and she and he and her household ate for many days."

Just imagine,

A widow in Zarephath is walking toward her house with two small sticks in her hand. She is not gathering wood for a feast—she is preparing her final meal. The Bible says she and her son are about to eat and die. This is desperation at its peak. No savings. No backup plan. No tomorrow. **At that exact moment, God interrupts her ending with an assignment.**

Faith that serves is spiritually alert. It sees what others overlook and responds with obedience rather than excuses. **Delayed obedience often disguises itself as wisdom,** planning, or "waiting on God," but genuine faith recognizes that some needs are God's invitation to act now.

Elijah appears - not with food, not with money - but with a request: **"Bring me a little water... and a morsel of bread."** Notice something powerful: God does not send Elijah after the miracle - He sends him before it. At this moment, the widow has two choices: delay obedience until conditions improve or respond immediately with what she has. **To see a need requires spiritual sensitivity.** Jesus was repeatedly described as being moved with compassion - He noticed hunger, sickness, grief, and exclusion before anyone asked Him. *Psalm 46:1 (NKJV) - God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble."*

What Are You Doing with the Two Sticks in Your Hand?

1. The Miracle Is on the Other Side of Obedience. God places miracles beyond the step of obedience, not before it. *John 2:5 (NKJV)* His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it." The servants obeyed first. The water was still water when they filled the pots, and the miracle (wine) happened after obedience, not before it.

2. What You Release Determines What God Multiplies. God does not multiply what we protect - He multiplies what we release. The widow's miracle did not begin when the flour increased; it began the moment she let go of her last. *John 12:24 (NKJV)* - "Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain."

3. Obedience Positions You for Sustained Provision, Not Just a Momentary Miracle. God is not just interested in giving you a miracle for today - He is positioning you for a new way of living. When the widow obeyed and released what she had, God did not give her one meal. He shifted her source. *(1 Kings 17:15, NKJV)* - She and he and her household ate for many days."

In Conclusion, Jesus Became the Source of Sustained Provision

John 6:35 (NKJV) - "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger." The widow's house moved from famine to daily supply. Through Jesus, humanity moves from spiritual famine to everlasting life.

- **One act of obedience → eternal covenant**
- **One sacrifice → ongoing grace**
- **One cross → unending provision**
- **Jesus did not give us a miracle - He gave us Himself as the source.**

Christ-Centred Closing Declaration: Jesus obeyed fully. Jesus released everything. Jesus became our eternal source.

So when God asks: "What are you doing with the two sticks in your hand?"

He is asking:

- Will you trust the pattern Jesus already fulfilled?
- Will you follow the obedience that leads to life?
- Because Jesus gave His all, we now live from abundance. What we place in His hands, He redeems, multiplies, and sustains.

Prayer Points

- **Prayer 1: A Prayer for Immediate Obedience: (Breaking Delay and Discernment Blockers)** - James 4:17 (NKJV) "Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin."
- **Prophetic Prayer 2: A Prayer of Release and Surrender: (Letting Go of the "Last" to Enter Multiplication)** - Luke 6:38 (NKJV) "Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over..."
- **Prophetic Prayer 3: A Prayer for Sustained Provision and Christ as Our Source: (From Momentary Miracle to New Way of Living)** - Matthew 6:33 (NKJV) "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."