

## Beyond Measure

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**Text: 1 Kings 17:7-16 (Message Bible)**

7-9 Eventually the brook dried up because of the drought. Then God spoke to him: “Get up and go to Zarephath in Sidon and live there. I’ve instructed a woman who lives there, a widow, to feed you.”

10-11 So he got up and went to Zarephath. As he came to the entrance of the village he met a woman, a widow, gathering firewood. He asked her, “Please, would you bring me a little water in a jug? I need a drink.” As she went to get it, he called out, “And while you’re at it, would you bring me something to eat?”

12 She said, “I swear, as surely as your God lives, I don’t have so much as a biscuit. I have a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a bottle; you found me scratching together just enough firewood to make a last meal for my son and me. After we eat it, we’ll die.”

13-14 Elijah said to her, “Don’t worry about a thing. Go ahead and do what you’ve said. But first make a small biscuit for me and bring it back here. Then go ahead and make a meal from what’s left for you and your son. This is the word of the God of Israel: ‘The jar of flour will not run out and the bottle of oil will not become empty before God sends rain on the land and ends this drought.’”

15-16 And she went right off and did it, did just as Elijah asked. And it turned out as he said—daily food for her and her family. The jar of meal didn’t run out and the bottle of oil didn’t become

empty: God's promise fulfilled to the letter, exactly as Elijah had delivered it!

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### **How to go beyond where you are now?**

- **Learn to Listen and Follow Instructions. - 1 kings 17:7-9**

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- **Challenge your personal stereotypes. - 1 kings 17:10-11**

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Elijah and the widow were different in everyday but needed each other.

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- **Take the initiative - 1 kings 17:11**

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- **Live unselfishly and use what you have - 1 Kings 17:12**

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firewood to make a last meal for my son and me. After we eat it, we'll die.”

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**Don't Worry - 1 Kings 17:13-14**

**13-14** Elijah said to her, “Don't worry about a thing. Go ahead and do what you've said. But first make a small biscuit for me and bring it back here. Then go ahead and make a meal from what's left for you and your son. This is the word of the God of Israel: ‘The jar of flour will not run out and the bottle of oil will not become empty before God sends rain on the land and ends this drought.’”

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**Let God do his part - 1 Kings 17:15-16**

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