Preschool–Grade 5

Elijah and the Widow Craft

See, thy son liveth · 1 Kings 17:8–24 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



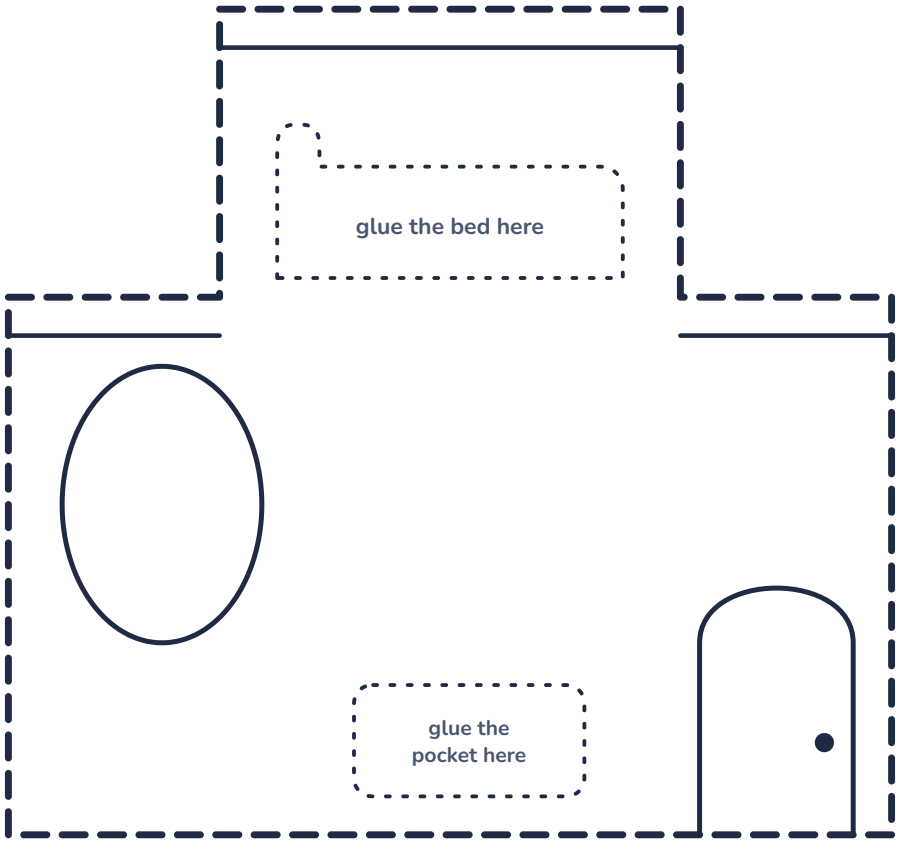
Harder

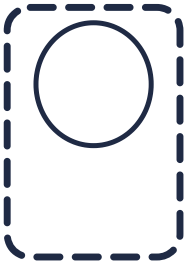
Both levels are a paper house with a loft, the room on top: tan walls, brown roof edges and a brown door, a brown bed in the loft and a tan pocket in the house. The widow is drawn in the oval, and her son, drawn on the son card, stands in the pocket beside her, because Elijah "brought him down out of the chamber into the house, and delivered him unto his mother" (1 Kings 17:23). Medium (left): the house. Harder (right): the same house with the barrel of meal and the cruse of oil glued below the widow (17:16).

Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post

Name: _____

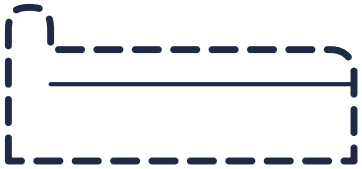
✂ Cut on the dashed lines





son card: draw the son in the oval. Color the rest of the card blue.

house: walls tan, roof edges and door brown. Draw the widow in the oval: long hair, a long dress.



bed: color it brown



pocket: color it tan

And the woman said to Elijah, Now by this I know that thou art a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in thy mouth is truth.

1 Kings 17:24 (KJV)

verse strip: glue it on the back of the house

Color the pieces and draw the widow and her son the way the labels say. Cut out the house, the bed, the pocket, the son card and the verse strip. You also need a glue stick.

Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post

Name: _____ ✂ Harder level

Barrel and cruse (harder level)

Cut on the dashed lines.



barrel of meal: brown, meal on top white



cruse of oil: orange

How to add the barrel and the cruse

1. Make the house from page 2 first, with the bed, the pocket and the verse strip glued on.
2. Color the barrel brown, but leave the meal on top white. Color the cruse orange. A **cruse** is a small jar, and **meal** is flour (1 Kings 17:12).
3. Cut out the barrel and the cruse on the dashed lines.
4. Glue them side by side on the house, below the widow's oval, at the bottom left.
5. Tell it: the widow had only "an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse" (17:12). She made Elijah a little cake first (17:13, 17:15). "And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD" (17:16). Then tell the rest with the son card.

VBSHQ

Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post

vbshq.com

For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/elijah-and-the-widow-craft
Time: 15 to 30 minutes, depending on the level · **Ages:** 3 to 11, in three levels · **Cost:** under 50 cents a child for the easy and medium levels
You need: page 2 printed once per child (cardstock is sturdiest), tan (or light brown), brown and blue crayons or markers, crayons for drawing the widow and her son, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child and an orange crayon.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out the house, the bed, the pocket, the son card and the verse strip. Glue the bed and the pocket on (sides and bottom only), and glue the verse strip on the back.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out each child's pieces and glue on the bed, the pocket and the verse strip. Kids color the house and draw the widow and her son. Then they move the son from the bed to the pocket while you tell the story.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, draw, cut out and glue the pieces themselves. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the house like the medium level. Then add the barrel of meal and the cruse of oil from page 3 below the widow (1 Kings 17:16). This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color:** color the house walls tan, the roof edges and the door brown. Color the bed brown and the pocket tan.
2. **Draw:** in the oval on the house, draw the widow with long hair and a long dress. In the oval on the son card, draw her son. Color the rest of the son card blue.
3. **Cut:** cut out the house, the bed, the pocket, the son card and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
4. **Glue the pockets:** glue the bed on its dotted outline in the loft, the room on top of the house. Put glue only on the sides and the bottom, not the top, so it makes a pocket. Glue the pocket on its dotted outline in the house the same way.
5. **Verse:** turn the house over and glue the verse strip on the back. Read it together.
6. **Tell it:** Elijah carried the son up into the loft and laid him on his own bed (1 Kings 17:19): slide the son card into the bed. Elijah cried unto the LORD (17:20–21). The LORD heard, and the child revived (17:22). Elijah brought him down into the house to his mother: move the son card into the pocket beside her. "See, thy son liveth" (17:23).

Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post

Questions to ask while kids work

- Where did God send Elijah? *(To Zarephath, to a widow woman, 1 Kings 17:9)*
- What did the widow have left? *("An handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse," 17:12)*
- What did Elijah ask her to make first? *(A little cake, 17:13)*
- Did the meal and the oil run out? *(No. They lasted, "according to the word of the LORD," 17:16)*
- Slide the son into the bed. Where did Elijah carry the child? *(Up into a loft, to his own bed, 17:19)*
- What did Elijah do there? *(He cried unto the LORD, and stretched himself upon the child three times, 17:20–21)*
- What did the LORD do? *(He heard Elijah, and the child revived, 17:22)*
- Move the son down to his mother. What did Elijah say? *("See, thy son liveth," 17:23)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained:** a **widow** is a woman whose husband has died; **meal** is flour; a **cruse** is a small jar; **wasted not** means did not run out; a **loft** or **chamber** is an upstairs room; **revived** means came back to life; **liveth** means is alive; **truth** means true.
- **What the Bible says:** Elijah stayed in a loft at the widow's house and laid the child on his own bed (1 Kings 17:19). The Bible doesn't describe the house, the bed or the barrel, and doesn't give the son's age ("the child," 17:22), so the craft keeps them simple.
- **Gentle, not scary:** say the boy got very sick and stopped breathing, and keep the focus on God hearing Elijah's prayer and the child alive again.
- **People only in the ovals, and never God:** each child draws the widow (long hair, a long dress) and her son. Elijah is not drawn; the child's hands move the son as Elijah carried him.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Elijah and the widow lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/elijah-and-the-widow.

Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post