**Sunday School from Home**

**September 13, 2020**

The story this week is about a miracle that occurred when an indebted widow comes to Elisha for help.

* Read 2 Kings 4:1-7. Note that many people worked together to solve the problem: the widow asked for help from Elisha, Elisha shared his wisdom, the friends and neighbors all pitched in to help, the sons assisted their mother. Together with God, the community solved a dire problem for this woman who had limited options. How do we do this today?
* The woman was desperate because her sons could have been sold into slavery to pay her husband’s debt. This was the law at that time. If appropriate for your children, discuss this part of the story in more detail. Ask them to tell what they think about this law and why.
* For older kids and adults, use your Bible or online research to find other laws that pertain to slaves in the Old Testament. Note which ones are God’s laws and which ones are governmental laws. Why would God or rulers make such laws? Consider how these Bible passages may have been used to hurt certain groups of people in the history of our country.
* Weather permitting, go outside and spend some time playing with water. Pour water from one container to another, perhaps using a funnel. Use various measuring cups and other tools to predict and then confirm how much water each container will hold. While you engage your children in this water play, talk with them about how surprised the woman must have been to discover that the jar continued to pour out oil, enough to fill many large jars!
* The jars in this story are made from clay. Use playdoh, modeling clay, or [**homemade dough**](https://livingwellmom.com/easy-homemade-playdough-recipe/#:~:text=%20How%20to%20Make%20Playdough%20%201%20Add,medium%2Flow%20and%20stir.%20It%20will%20be...%20More%20)to create pinch pots. The basic technique is to roll the clay into a ball and then pinch the middle of the ball between your thumb and fingers until you have a bowl shape. From here you can dry the pot and then decorate with paint, make a lid, or anything else you can think of! To celebrate the fall season, maybe form your pot into the shape of a pumpkin or a leaf. Check [**this website**](https://www.redtedart.com/creative-pinch-pot-ideas-for-kids/) for hints on these and other ideas.
* The widow woman asked Elisha for help in our story. Reinforce this idea by playing a game. Pick a leader to play Elisha, and the other players take turns asking Elisha for help. Elisha instructs each player to perform a simple task or movement, and the player does so. Be silly in your instructions! Take turns until everyone has had a chance to play Elisha.
* Read the attachment for the ways that olive oil was used in the Bible. How many of these do we still use today? Make something together with any oil you have in the house
* For older kids and adults, read the attachment that tells more about olive trees and olive oil. If desired, research online a bit more about how olive oil is made.
* Finally, solve the math problems about oil!