

HIDDEN OF THE OLD TESTAMENT HEROES

The Widow Who Gave Away Her Last Meal 1Kings 17:8-24

Generous people...

- Aren't made of money.
 - Caution: All that I have I have received.
- Trust in a generous God.
 - He gave it all.
 - He raises the dead.
- Matter to God and impact eternity.
 - Caution: We walk by faith not sight.

Getting Started:

Who is someone you would describe as generous? Why?

Digging In:

Why does Elijah end up at the widow's house (vs 1-7)? Put yourself in the sandals of the widow. How would you have responded to Elijah's request (vs 10-11, 13-14)? Why does Elijah ask to be provided for first? Why does the woman respond so generously? Read these other verses about the giving of those who are not wealthy (Mk 12:41-44; 2Cor 8:1-5). Does this surprise you? Why or why not? What attitude does 1Cor 4:7 address about giving for both rich and poor? How are Jesus words in Lk 4:24-29 a commendation of this widow? How do these verses affirm the idea that generous people matter to God and impact eternity (Pr 11:25; Mt 23:34-35; 2Cor 9:6-11; 1Tim 6:18-19)?

Living It Out:

Do you sense that what you do matters before God? Why or why not? What would you say to someone who doesn't give or doesn't use their gift because they feel it is insignificant? Why is trust in God a critical component for generous people? Do you view God as generous or holding back? Why? In what way could you give generously this week to someone or something in terms of time, energy, or resources?