

Lectionary Bible Study

For Sunday, November 10, 2024 (Pentecost 25)

1 Kings 17: 8-16

Discussion Starters

1. Why was there drought and famine in the land at this time? This woman would not have been a Jew, so why did God send Elijah to her?
2. If you had been her, what would have been your response to the instructions given by Elijah in vv. 13-14? Why did she respond as she did? Was it a step of faith or something else?
3. Knowing the desperation experienced by this woman and her son, why would Elijah have insisted on being fed first? What does this teach you about miracles and faith?
4. Look beyond today's reading and see what important events were coming for both the widow and Elijah. Why would the miracle in today's reading be important for both of them to experience? What does that teach you about miracles and faith?
5. How long did the provision of God last?

Hebrews 9:24-28

Discussion Starters

1. What are the "copies" in this analogy? What are the "real thing?" Why is the real thing better?
2. According to this text, what was the purpose of Jesus' first coming? What will be the purpose of His second coming?
3. Why did Jesus enter heaven?
4. What is the judgment that each person must face (v. 27)?

Mark 12:38-44

Discussion Starters

1. How would you describe the lifestyle of the religious leaders? What might be modern day equivalents of these behaviors? By contrast, what should Christians today expect from their leaders?
2. What point is Jesus making when he speaks about the difference between the gifts of the religious leaders and the gift of the widow?
3. What are ways today people use religion to make themselves look good?
4. Why do you give your offerings? How do you determine how much to give?
5. When is "more" actually "less?" Why is a "little" a lot?

WRAP UP

What key insight did you gain from this Bible study? How might it make a difference in how you live today?