

Jehovah Jireh: God is My Provider | Pastor Steve Wells | 09.12.2021
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This week Pastor Steve talked about contentment and trust being connected to our understanding of God being our provider. When we learn to trust God as our provider, we truly begin to trust God. The Apostle Paul says in Philippians 4 that contentment and trust are “learned by experience” not through imparted knowledge or training. This means we ALL must learn how to trust God as our Provider through experiential life lessons or tests. They aren’t fun in the moment, but the joy that results is worth its weight in gold!

Let’s take a look at another example of God’s miraculous provision! What can we learn from this story?

Read 2 Kings 4:1-7 New Living Translation

Elisha Helps a Poor Widow

¹ One day the widow of a member of the group of prophets came to Elisha and cried out, “My husband who served you is dead, and you know how he feared the Lord. But now a creditor has come, threatening to take my two sons as slaves.” ² “What can I do to help you?” Elisha asked. “Tell me, what do you have in the house?” “Nothing at all, except a flask of olive oil,” she replied. ³ And Elisha said, “Borrow as many empty jars as you can from your friends and neighbors. ⁴ Then go into your house with your sons and shut the door behind you. Pour olive oil from your flask into the jars, setting each one aside when it is filled.” ⁵ So she did as she was told. Her sons kept bringing jars to her, and she filled one after another. ⁶ Soon every container was full to the brim! “Bring me another jar,” she said to one of her sons. “There aren’t any more!” he told her. And then the olive oil stopped flowing. ⁷ When she told the man of God what had happened, he said to her, “Now sell the olive oil and pay your debts, and you and your sons can live on what is left over.”

Questions:

- What does this story tell us about God’s heart and His desire to provide for us?
- What role did the widow and her sons have in God’s provision?
- What do you think would have happened if they didn’t participate as instructed?
- What do you think this teaches us about God’s provision and our responsibilities?
 - Read Proverbs 6:6-11 and discuss.
 - What is the difference between trusting God and personal labor/work for your provisions? Since God does not reward laziness - How do they work together?
- Verse 6 says – every jar they had was filled. What do you think about that? Would the miracle continued IF they had more jars? Explain your answer.
- What else have you observed in this story that you want to share with the group?

Share with the Group:

- This week Pastor Steve taught us that contentment & trust in the Lord are learned. Paul describes his learning process in Philippians 4. Can you share a time in your life when you **learned** contentment or trust in God’s provision in your life? Remember your testimony can help to build the faith of your friends & family! Also, sharing your testimony is a great way to give Glory to God and rehearse the lessons you have learned in the past!