

WELCOME / OPEN IN PRAYER

INTRODUCTIONS: Share the topic & takeaway this week.

GOD-STORIES: A God-story is an undeniable encounter or experience with God that creates an impact or breakthrough in a person's day-to-day life.

REVIEW FROM LAST WEEK: Were you able to seek out areas to serve with a heart of joy?

WEEK #3

Thought provoking question: If God presented you a menu of provisions for your life, would you choose a familiar comfort food you love or would you choose an unfamiliar dish that you've never tasted before? Would you trust God to make your choice for you?

GUIDELINES

SAFE ENVIRONMENT | CONFIDENTIALITY | LISTEN | PAUSE | SILENCE | NO "CROSS TALK" | NO FIXING | NO RESCUING | SHARING | SELF AWARE | "I" STATEMENTS | CONFLICT

Title: Love the Church

Topic: Provision of God

Takeaway: Trust in God's faithful provision, even when the path is unclear.

SHARE BACKGROUND AND PROVIDE CONTEXT TO THE BIBLE STORY.

In 1 Kings after King David's death, his son Solomon succeeded him and ruled over a united kingdom of Israel. Solomon's reign was marked by great prosperity and the construction of the temple in Jerusalem. However, after his death, the kingdom was divided into two: the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah. The northern kingdom was plagued by wicked kings who introduced idolatry and other false gods to Israel, one of whom was King Ahab. Ahab, who, along with his wife Jezebel, led the Israelites away from God, resulting in a drought and famine in the land.

During this crisis, God sent the faithful prophet Elijah to confront King Ahab and the people of Israel and call them to repentance. The story of 1 Kings 17 begins with God speaking to Elijah and telling him to go to a place called Kerith, where he would be fed by ravens and drink from a brook.

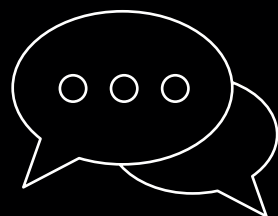
SHARE THE STORY: 1 Kings 17:1-16

INVITE EVERYONE TO ENGAGE BY REBUILDING THE STORY.

READ SCRIPTURE OUT LOUD TO SEE IF ANYTHING WAS ADDED OR OMITTED

Support Passages: Ecclesiastes 3:1-15, Ezra 3 & 7

DIVE DEEPER WITH DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



1. If you were in Elijah's shoes, what food would you have asked the widow to make for you?
2. How can we cultivate the kind of faith that allows us to trust in God's provision, even when we can't see the fullness of His plans?
3. What are some examples of times when God has unexpectedly provided for you, and how did those experiences deepen your faith and trust in Him?
4. _____ ?
5. _____ ?

PRAYER REQUESTS

Share & record prayer requests & follow up throughout the week

ASSIGN NEXT WEEK'S STORY: Ruth 2
ASK A VOLUNTEER TO CLOSE IN PRAYER.