### 2 Kings

## Chapter 4

1Then a woman of one of the sons of the prophets called for EliSha and then she said to him:  
  
 ‘Your servant, my husband, has died, and you know that your servant was [a person] who feared Jehovah... However, the moneylender just came to take my two sons as his slaves.’  
  
2And EliSha said:  
  
 ‘Then, tell me what I can do for you… Is there anything that you own with which [you can pay for their release]?’  
  
And she replied:  
  
 ‘I don’t have a single thing in my house other than some olive oil that’s used for anointing.’  
  
3And he said:  
  
 ‘Then, go around to your neighbors and see how many empty jars you can get from them... 4After that, go back home and lock yourself and your sons inside, and fill each of the jars with [the olive oil], one at a time.’  
  
5So she went home and did as he told her... She gathered her sons and locked the doors, and then she started filling the jars.  
  
6Well, as she filled them, she kept saying to her sons:  
  
 ‘Now, bring me another jar!’  
  
However, they finally told her:  
  
 ‘There aren’t any more jars.’  
  
And at that, the flow of olive oil ended.  
  
7So she went and reported what had happened to EliSha, the man of God.  
  
And EliSha said:  
  
 ‘Now, go and sell the olive oil, and that will pay your interest. Then you and your sons can use whatever you don’t sell.’  
  
  
8Well, one day, as EliSha was passing through [the village of] Soman, a wealthy woman who lived there insisted that he come in for a meal. And thereafter, whenever he was passing by, he would stop there to eat.  
  
9So the woman said to her husband:  
  
 ‘{Look!} I know that this is a holy man of God who is always stopping here. 10Why don’t we make a small room for him upstairs? We can put a bed, a table, a chair, and a lampstand there, and whenever he comes to visit, he can spend the night here.’  
  
11And one day when he was in the area, he stopped in and went to his upstairs room, where he went to bed.  
  
12Then later, [EliSha] told his servant GeHazi:  
  
 ‘Call the Somanite woman and ask to speak to her. Tell her:  
  
 ‘{Look!} You’ve surprised us with [the good thing you’ve done for us]. So, what can we do for you? Can we put in a good word for you with the king or with his generals?’  
  
13But she replied:  
  
 ‘No, I live among friends and I have a happy life.’  
  
14So he asked GeHazi:  
  
 ‘What [nice thing] do you think we can do for her?’  
  
And GeHazi replied:  
  
 ‘Well, she has no son, and her husband is very old.’  
  
15So EliSha said:  
  
 ‘Then call her!’  
  
So he called to her, and she came up and stood by the door, 16and he said to her:  
  
 ‘On this day next year, at about the same time, you’ll be holding a living son.’  
  
But she said:  
  
 ‘Oh no, my lord! You shouldn’t disappoint your female servant like this!’  
  
17However, the woman did get pregnant and give birth to a living son on the same day and [at the same] time the following year, just as EliSha had told her!  
  
18Well, the boy grew wonderfully. Then, one day he went out to where his father was harvesting, 19and he said to him:  
  
 ‘Oh, my head! My head hurts!’  
  
So the father told his servant:  
  
 ‘Carry him to his mother.’  
  
20And he carried him [home] to his mother, who put him to sleep on her knees.  
  
However, sometime around noon, he died.  
  
21Then she carried him upstairs and laid him on the bed of the man of God. And after she locked the door, she called for her husband 22and told him:  
  
 ‘Send one of the servants with me and a burro, because I’m going to run and find the man of God and bring him back.’  
  
23Well, he asked:  
  
 ‘Why do you have to go to him today?  
  
 ‘It’s not a New Moon or a Sabbath.’  
  
But she just said:  
  
 ‘Peace!’  
  
24Then she saddled her burro and told her servant:  
  
 ‘You lead… Go!  
  
 ‘Don’t wait for me to mount the burro… As I said, Go! Search throughout Mount CarMel and find the man of God!’  
  
25So they went to the mountain and found the man of God.  
  
Well when EliSha saw her coming, he said to GeHazi (his servant):  
  
 ‘Isn’t that the Somanite woman? 26If so, run to meet her and say:  
  
 ‘May you, your husband, and the boy have peace!’  
  
Then as she [approached GeHazi], she also said:  
  
 ‘Peace!’  
  
27Well at that, she went up to EliSha on the mountain and grabbed hold of his feet. However, GeHazi tried to push her away...  
  
But EliSha said:  
  
 ‘Leave her alone, because there’s a lot of pain in her life!  
  
 ‘I don’t know what it is yet, because Jehovah has concealed it from me.’  
  
28Then she said to him:  
  
 ‘I didn’t ask for a son from my lord, and I told you not to mislead me…’  
  
29And EliSha said to GeHazi:  
  
 ‘Tighten your belt, then take my walking stick and go!  
  
 ‘If you see any man along the way, don’t stop to bless him… Or if a man should bless you, don’t answer him.  
  
 ‘Go and place my walking stick against the face of the boy.’  
  
30But the boy’s mother said to EliSha:  
  
 ‘As Jehovah lives and as your body is living; are we going to leave you behind?’  
  
So EliSha got up and went with her, 31as GeHazi traveled ahead.  
  
  
Well [when GeHazi got there], he placed the walking stick against the boy’s face… But there was no sound and he couldn’t hear anything.  
  
So he went back to EliSha and said:  
  
 ‘The boy didn’t get up.’  
  
32Then EliSha went into the house and {Look!} he found the dead boy lying on his bed. 33So he went inside the room, locked the door behind him, and he prayed to Jehovah.  
  
34Then he got down on top of the boy, mouth-to-mouth, eye-to-eye, and hand-to-hand, and he just laid there warming his flesh.  
  
35Then he got up and he walked all around the house, and thereafter, he went back upstairs and leaned against the boy seven times…  
  
And suddenly the boy opened his eyes!  
  
36So EliSha yelled out to GeHazi:  
  
 ‘Call the Somanite woman!’  
  
Well, he called her and she went upstairs; and EliSha said:  
  
 ‘Here’s your son!’  
  
37So she went in, fell down upon EliSha’s feet, and bowed to the ground before him. Then she took her son [back downstairs].  
  
  
38Well after that, EliSha traveled to GilGal, because there was a famine in the land. There the sons of the prophets sat down before him, and EliSha told his servant:  
  
 ‘Go get the large cooking pot and boil up some stew for the sons of the prophets.’  
  
39So his servant went out into the fields to collect some vegetables. There he found a vine growing that had some [poisonous] wild gourds. So he [unknowingly] picked [them,] enough to fill his coat. Then he threw them into the stew pot (but they didn’t know anything about it).  
  
40However, afterwards, when he poured out the stew for the men and they started eating it, they yelled:  
  
 ‘O man of God… There’s poison in this!’  
  
And they weren’t willing to eat it.  
  
41However, EliSha told his servant:  
  
 ‘Just take some flour and add it to the pot.’  
  
Then he told GeHazi to pour some more for them to eat... Well, there wasn’t anything wrong with the food in the pot after that.  
  
  
42And later, a man from BethSariSha came to him carrying the first fruits of his harvest for the man of God… 20 barley loaves and [several] clusters of dried figs.  
  
And he said:  
  
 ‘Give this to these people and let them eat it.’  
  
43But [EliSha] said to his servant:  
  
 ‘Why should I feed those things to just 100 men?  
  
 ‘Give it to the [rest] of the people [of the city] and let them eat it, for Jehovah told me:  
  
 ‘They will eat it and then they’ll have leftovers!’  
  
44And for a fact, after everyone ate it, there were leftovers – just as Jehovah had said.