

THE POWER OF AN OBEDIENT LIFE:
The Challenge of Obedience
(1 Kings 17:7-16)

I. REVIEW

A. The Foundations for Obedience

1. **A dynamic, personal walk with God**
2. **A deep, personal knowledge of the Word of God**
3. **The commitment to biblically-based prayer**

B. The Benefits of Obedience

1. **Revelation: A word from God when you need it**
2. **Protection: God's intervention in your difficulties**
3. **Provision: God will meet your needs**

II. THE CHALLENGE OF OBEDIENCE

A Promise: You will never see the power of God at work in your life in a _____ way until you begin to give God _____ !

Some time later the brook dried up because there was no rain in the land.
1 Kings 17:7 (NIV)

A. Challenge #1: Will you still obey God when you are not getting the _____ ?

Then the word of the Lord came to [Elijah]: "Go at once to Zarephath of Sidon and stay there. I have commanded a widow in that place to supply you with food." 1 Kings 17:9 (NIV)

So he went to Zarephath. 1 Kings 17:10a (NIV)

B. Challenge # 2: Will you still obey God when what he asks you to do _____ ?

When [Elijah] came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, "Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?" As she was going to get it, he called, "And bring me please, a piece of bread." 1 Kings 17:10b-11 (NIV)

"As surely as the Lord your God lives," she replied, "I don't have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die." 1 Kings 17:12 (NIV)

Elijah said to her, "Don't be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small cake of bread for me from what you have, and then make something for yourself and your son." 1 Kings 17:13 (NIV)

For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: "The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the Lord gives rain on the land." 1 Kings 17:14 (NIV)

She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the widow and her family. For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the Lord spoken by Elijah. 1 Kings 17:15-16 (NIV)