

Bible Stories for Young Children

part of a curriculum prepared for young children

ELIJAH AND THE WIDOW OF ZAREPHATH

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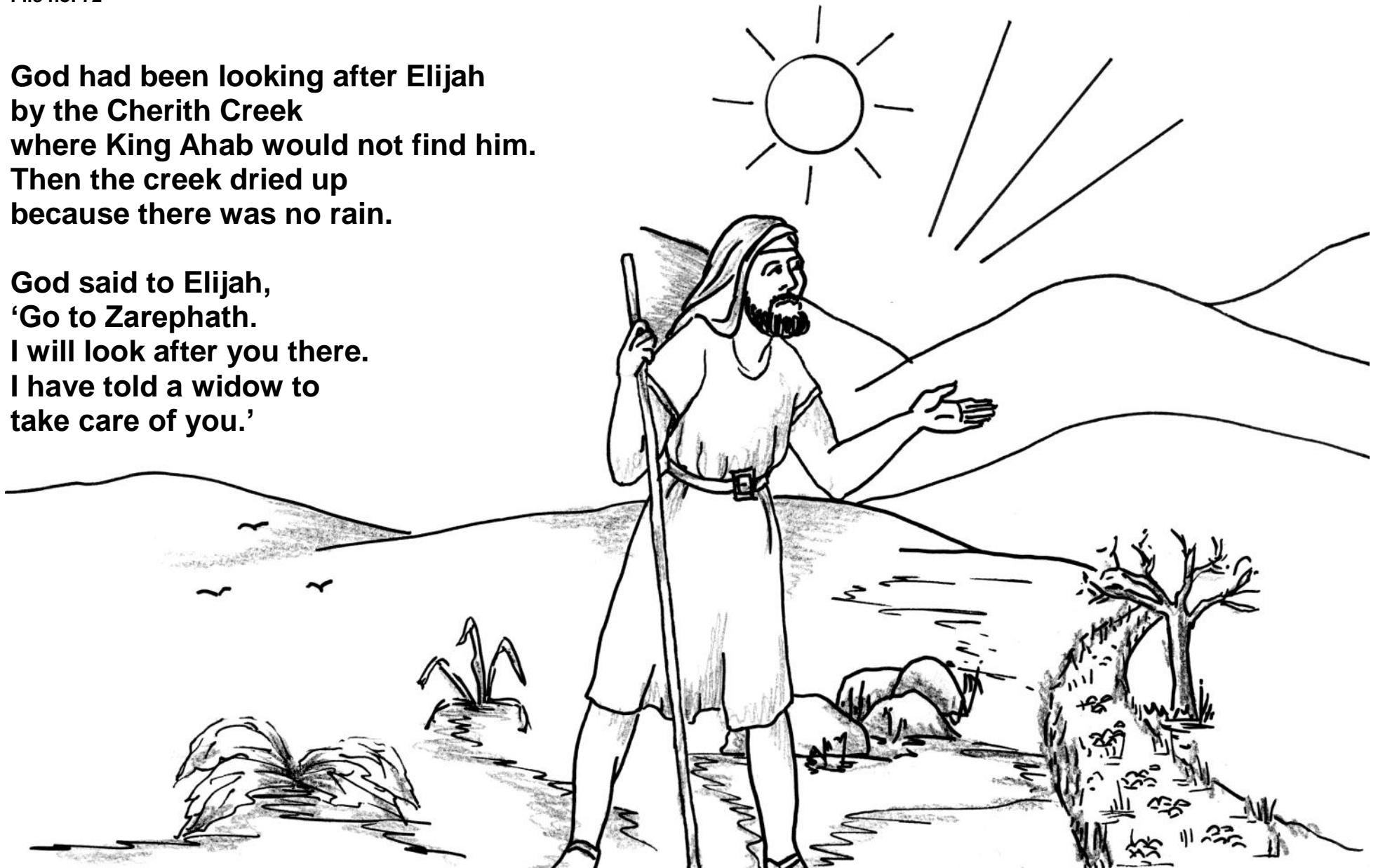
1 KINGS 17:8-24

ELIJAH AND THE WIDOW OF ZAREPHATH

File no. 72

**God had been looking after Elijah
by the Cherith Creek
where King Ahab would not find him.
Then the creek dried up
because there was no rain.**

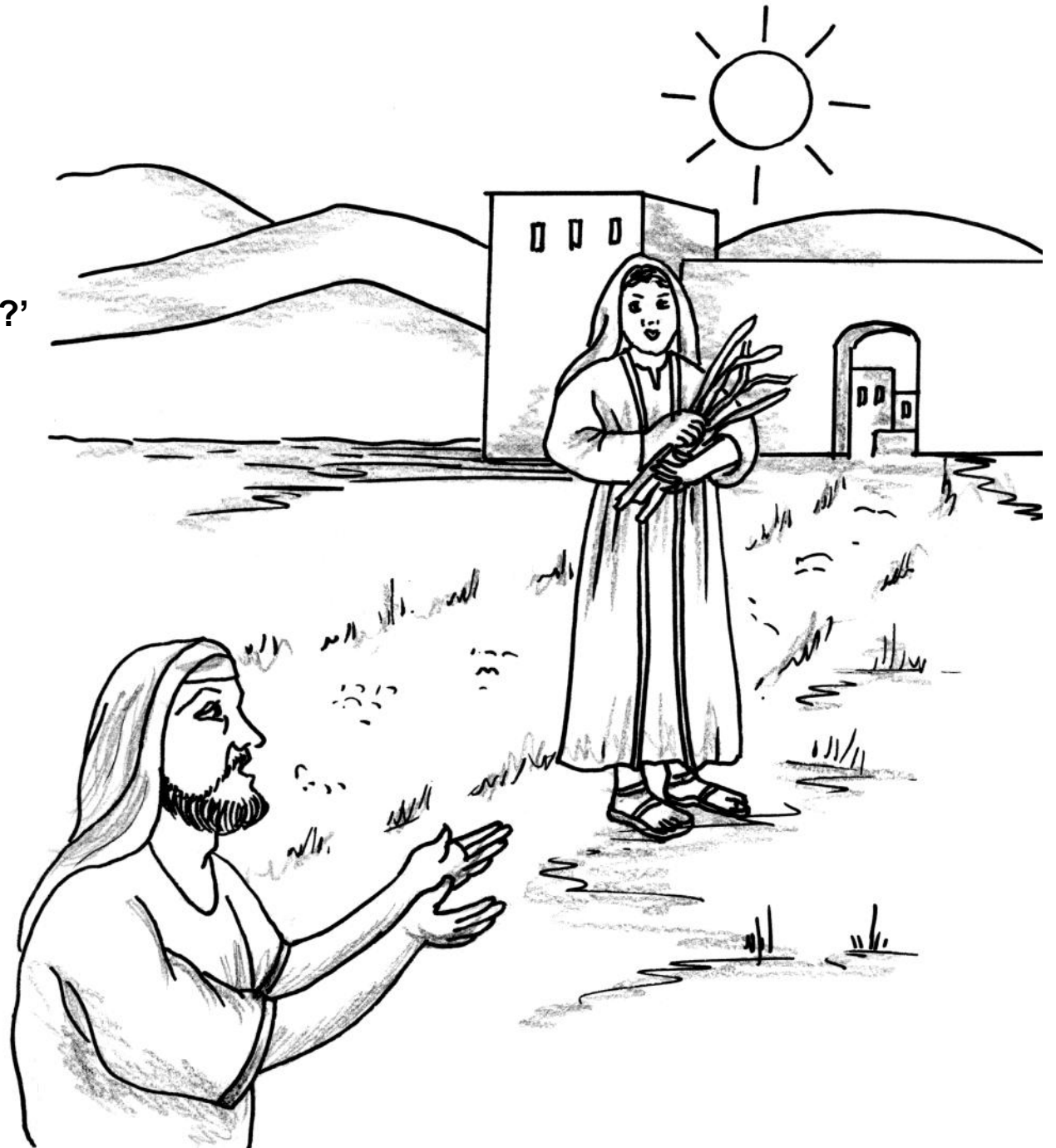
**God said to Elijah,
'Go to Zarephath.
I will look after you there.
I have told a widow to
take care of you.'**



**As Elijah came near to Zarephath
he saw a widow gathering sticks.**

**He asked her,
'Would you give me a drink?'
and
'Please, bring me a piece of bread?'**

**The lady answered,
'As the Lord lives,
I have no bread.
I only have a handful of flour
and a little bit of oil left.
I was gathering sticks
to cook our last meal.
After that my son and I
will die of hunger.'**



**‘Don’t worry,’ said Elijah.
‘Cook a little loaf
and bring it to me first.
Then go
and cook something
for yourself and your son.’**

**‘The Lord God of Israel says,
“The jar of flour
will not run out
and there will be oil
in your jug
until the Lord sends rain.”’**

**So the widow went
and made
her last loaf of bread
and gave it to Elijah.**



**She believed Elijah.
And when she went back to her jar
she found there was flour in it.
In her jug she found oil.
She cooked a meal
for herself and her son.**

**Every day she looked into
the jar and the jug
and found enough flour and oil
to make bread,
just as the Lord had said.**



Some time later the widow's son became very sick and died.

The widow found Elijah and said, 'You are a man of God. Did you come to remind me that I am a sinner and to kill my son?'

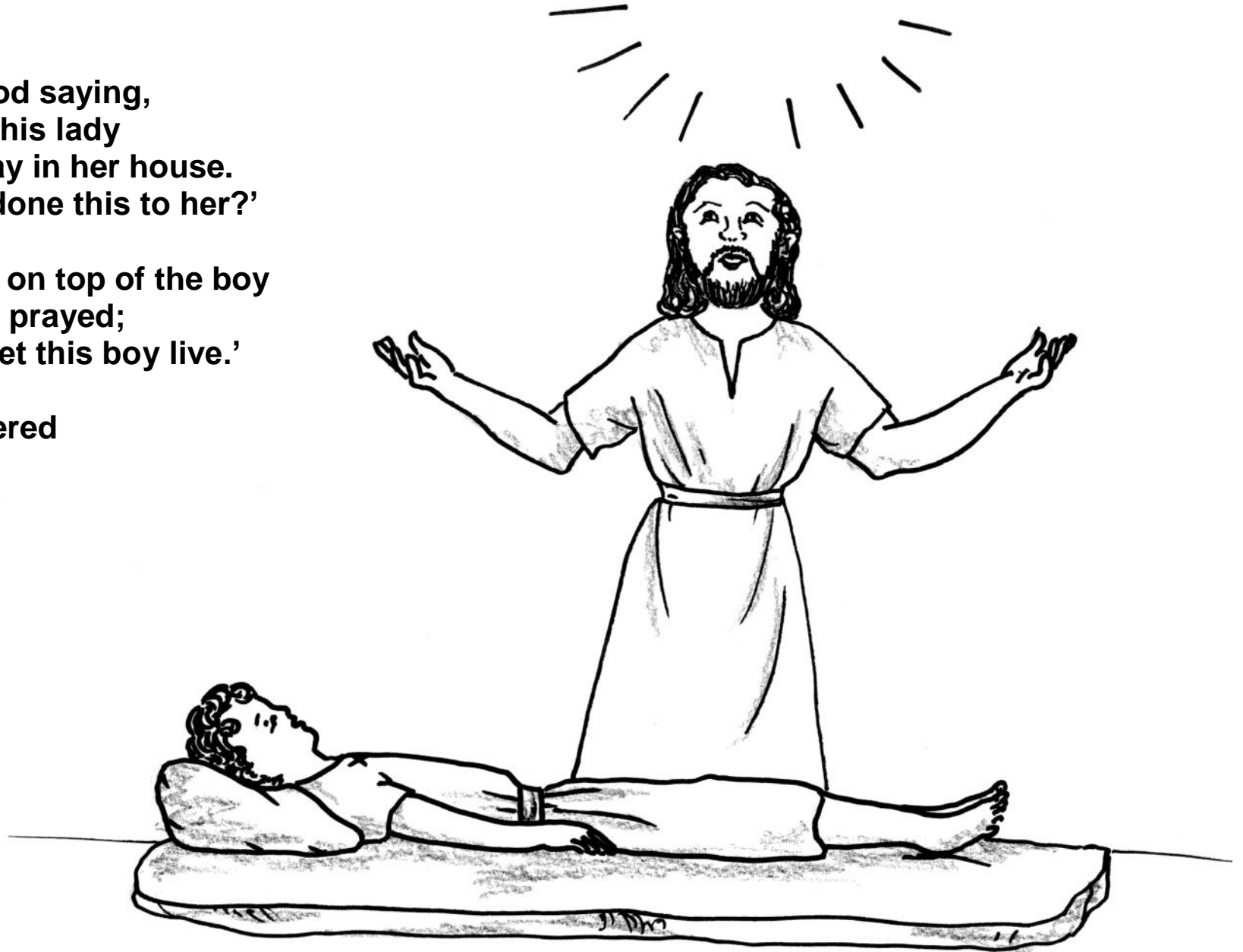
Elijah took her dead son upstairs to his own bed.



**He prayed to God saying,
'Lord my God, this lady
is letting me stay in her house.
Why have you done this to her?'**

**Then Elijah laid on top of the boy
three times and prayed;
'Lord my God, let this boy live.'**

**The Lord answered
Elijah's prayer.**



He gave the son to his mother
and said.

‘See! Your son is alive!’

The widow answered,
‘Now I know
that you are a man from God.
The Lord speaks through you!’

*Elijah had been sent
to speak God’s word
to the king.
The king did not want to listen.*

*But God also spoke to Elijah,
to care for him
and for those
who believed His word.*

