

And He said to them, “No doubt you will quote this proverb to Me, ‘Physician, heal yourself! Whatever we heard was done at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.’ ” and He said, “Truly I say to you, no prophet is welcome in his hometown. But I say to you in truth, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the sky was shut up for three years and six months, when a great famine came over all the land; and yet Elijah was sent to none of them, but **only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon**, to a woman who was a widow. And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet; and none of them was cleansed, but **only Naaman the Syrian.**”

(Lk 4:23–27)

## Elíjah's Widow 1 Kings 17

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon and stay there; behold, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you."

## Elísha's Leper 2 Kings 5

Now Naaman, captain of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man with his master, and highly respected, because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man was also a valiant warrior, but he was a leper.

# What type of person welcomes God's message?

## Elijah's Widow 1 Kings 17

## Elisha's Leper 2 Kings 5

1. Not wealth or culture

Sidonian widow

Aramean captain

2. Each had a need

Starving widow

Leprous captain

3. Unexpected encounter

"make me a little bread cake  
first" (vs. 12)

"Behold, I thought, 'He will  
surely come out to me...'"  
(vs. 11)

4. A simple choice that tests  
their character

"afterward you make one for  
yourself and for your son." (vs. 13)

"had the prophet told you to do  
some great thing..." (vs. 13)

5. A gracious gift received  
based upon their choice

"the bowl of flour was not  
exhausted..." (vs. 16)

"his flesh was restored like the  
flesh of a child" (vs. 14)

# What type of person welcomes God's message?

Elijah's Widow  
1 Kings 17

Elisha's Leper  
2 Kings 5

1. Not wealth or culture

"in every nation anyone who fears Him and does what is right is acceptable to Him." (Acts 10:35)

2. Each had a need

"And you did He make alive, when you were dead through your trespasses and sins," (Eph 2:1)

3. Unexpected encounter

**"Behold, I thought 'He will**  
"He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world knew Him not." (Jhn 1:10)  
**(vs. 11)**

4. A simple choice that tests their character

"So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls." (Acts 2:41)

5. A gracious gift received based upon their choice

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God" (Eph 2:8)