



Elijah said to her,

*Do not be afraid.*

1 Kings 17:13

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### Bake The Cake-A Widow's Might

By: Elizabeth Dyer

And Elijah said to her, "Do not fear; go and do as you have said. But first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son.

1 Kings 17:13 ESV

Lord, I need Your wisdom! I have no clues how we can make it financially.

### Upcoming Events

**February 3rd 10 AM**

**Missions Department Walk-A-Thon**

**February 4th 2 PM**

**Church Anniversary Picnic**

**February 5th 7 PM**

**GriefShare**

**February 6th 7 PM**

**Women's Ministry Coffee and Chocolate**

**February 13th 7 PM**

**Department Head Meeting**

**March 16th through the 18th**

**Girls Ministries Powette**

I was lying in bed, once again awake in the middle of the night. I decided to pray instead of usual grumbling about being awake.

Like some of you, I struggle to make the money last until the end of the month. When I look at the number on paper, it sounds like it should be enough. But when the college kid needs a few hundred to make the last payment on his school account, the teen needs new shoes for his sport, the rest of the kids want food in the pantry, well, it feels like we never have enough. I lay there and began to think about a discussion with a friend regarding my options.

One idea would be to just drop tithing each month.

Honestly, it isn't even about the amount of my tithe, because the church probably wouldn't even notice if I quit giving. The reason I tithe is to consistently give first to God's work.

Lord, You need to show me if this is the best idea for us, please.

The next few days, my mind was distracted by the consideration of options.

And then a passage of Scripture came to my mind. I gravitate toward stories in the Bible where one of the main characters is a widow.

If you have your Bible handy (or click the link), stop reading this post for just a moment and read a passage in 1 Kings 17. It is short, just about eight verses- 8-16. This is the story of the Widow of Zarephath.

Elijah had run from Israel into a neighboring country to hide. He came upon a widow gathering sticks to make the last fire to bake her last cake. She and her son were going to just wait to die after that. Out of options. Nothing more to do. Hopeless.

## Girls Ministries Powette



**Friday, March 16th through  
Sunday, March 18th**

**Powette is for girls that are in Stars, Friends and Girls Only. This is our annual camping trip at Camp Wilderness. The cost is \$80 which includes all meals for the weekend. Registration and monies are due by Wednesday, January 31st. If you are able to sponsor one of our girls to attend Powette we ask that you please place it in the offering plate and mark it "Powette Sponsorship."**

## Prayer Meeting



**Mondays, 7-8 PM**

**Please join us on Mondays for a Prayer Meeting. The prayer time will be held in the conference room from 7-8 pm. This Prayer Meeting will take place every Monday night. Come on out and pray for our Church, Community and our Nation.**

## Missions Department

And then Elijah asked her to do something that seems out of order to us - give the prophet the bread cake first then make one for herself and her son. What? There won't be even enough LEFT for us after we make yours!

**GOD'S ECONOMY IS VASTLY DIFFERENT THAN OURS!**

You want me to bake a cake for You first by continuing to give my tithe? I questioned in my prayers. And, yes, that was exactly what He wanted. What a profound relief that discovery had on my spirit. God wanted me to trust Him enough to give to Him first.

I had to first bake the "bread cake" for God's servants here in my town. God would take care of us!

This passage from thousands of years ago about a widow who was in a hopeless situation was part of Elijah's first miracle and even mentioned by Jesus in the gospels. This widow was NOT an Israelite but was willing to be kind to a stranger, not knowing she would ever live through it. We don't know if she knew anything about prophets of God. He certainly wasn't HER prophet.

And what was the miracle? Elijah caused her cooking oil and flour to never run out!

Some of the weight has been lifted momentarily from my shoulders since God answered my prayer for wisdom when I committed to give to Him first. As Dr. Charles Stanley says, "Obey and leave the consequences to God."

Finances are such a tricky subject to talk about openly. I believe the conversation about finances, whether there is plenty or little, is to first talk to God about how He wants you to proceed. He promises wisdom to those who

## Walk-A-Thon



**Saturday, February 3rd**

**Please join our Missions team for a 5 mile walk to raise funds for missions. The walk will take place a Fort Frazier Trail and is starting at 10 AM. We encourage you to get people to sponsor you for your walk. For more information contact Jerm or Deb Day-Storms.**

## Church Anniversary Picnic



**Sunday, February 4th**

**On this day we will celebrate all that God has done in 28 years at Harvest Church. We will be having a picnic that afternoon at Lake Parker Park, Osprey Pavilion from 2-5 pm. We ask that everyone please bring a covered dish to share. We also encourage you to bring a lawn chair and your kids bikes, scooters or any riding toys. Reminder that we will not have any evening services on this day.**

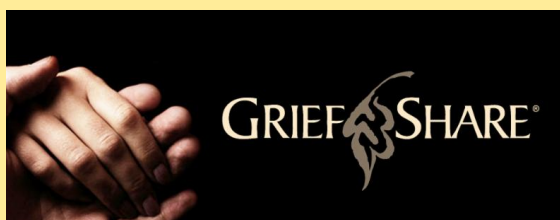
## GriefShare

ask, so ask Him for direction. And the other tricky thing about talking about finances is that there is no answer that works for every situation.

SEEK GOD'S DIRECTION, SINCE IT'S HIS MONEY ANYWAY - WE ARE JUST STEWARDS HERE ON EARTH.

Father God, all we have belongs to You. Give us wisdom to discern our stewardship of the resources You have provided. Amen

By: Elizabeth Dyer



**Monday, February 5th**

**GriefShare is a ministry that walks with people that have lost a loved one, and helps give them the tools for healing. The classes will be on Monday nights from 7-9 pm in the Preschool Room. For more information contact Gordon Moody or Susan Carmack.**

## Quick Links

[Facebook Page](#)

[Church Website:](#)

### **Harvest Giving App**

**For IOS and Android Phones**

**We are happy to announce that we have a quick and secure tool that is available to us now for Giving. All you need to do is go to your App store on your phone and type in Harvest Assembly of God Lakeland, and download it for free right to your smart phone.**

### **Womens Coffee and Chocolate**



**Tuesday, February 6th at 7 PM**

**We invite all of our Harvest ladies to attend our first WM Coffee and Chocolate of the**

**New Year. Please bring a dessert to share and and grab a friend to enjoy the evening with. For more information contact Judi Cotignola at [judicotignola@yahoo.com](mailto:judicotignola@yahoo.com).**

## **Department Head Meeting**



**Tuesday, February 13th at 7 PM**

**All of our Department Head Leaders are encouraged to attend this months meeting. Dinner will be served. Please R.S.V.P. so we know how many to plan for.**

## **Service Times**

Saturday

7pm Adult Worship

7 pm Embrace Children's Church

Sunday

9 am Early Morning Worship

9 am Christian Education

11 am Mid Morning Worship

11 am Harvest Kids Church

11 am Special Needs Church

6 pm Evening Worship

6 pm Student Ministries

Wednesday

7 pm Adult Worship

7 pm Girls Ministries and Royal Rangers

We look forward to seeing you!

Harvest Assembly Of God