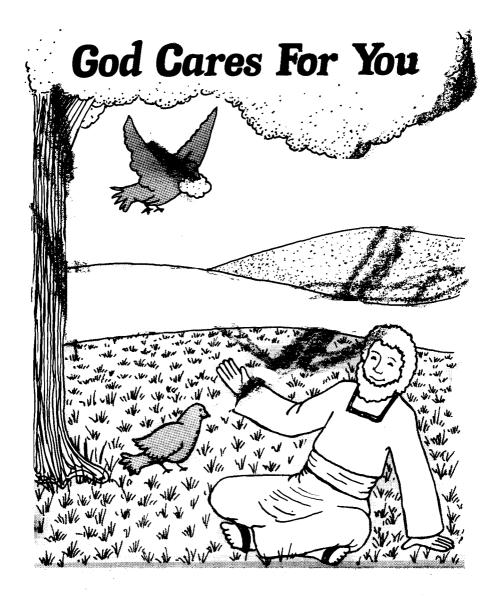
Children's Magazine



APRIL 1980





God Cares For You



"Barrel" of meal

God desires most of all that we prosper (do well) and be in health (be healthy). God ALWAYS desires with all of His heart to help us because we are His children. He wants to supply all our needs. God will meet our needs as we simply trust His Word.

In I Kings 17 is a beautiful record of God's care for a man of God named Elijah. As Elijah loved God and followed God's instructions, God took care of him even in the midst of a terrible situation.

God told Elijah there would not be any rain for a LONG time. When there is no rain, after a while there will be no water for the plants and animals and they will die. When there is no water, plants or animals, the people will die too! Elijah knew this, but rather than allowing his mind to fear, he chose to believe what God told him to do.

The first thing God told Elijah was to go eastward and hide himself by a brook called Cherith. God told him to drink from the brook and that there would be large, black birds called ravens which would feed him. I Kings 17:5 and 6 says that Elijah went, drank from the brook and the ravens brought him food. God always keeps His promises, and Elijah received when he simply believed and obeyed God.

I Kings 17:7 says, "And it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land." God talked to Elijah again, saying, "Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Zidon, and dwell there: behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain [give food and watch over] thee" (I Kings 17:9).

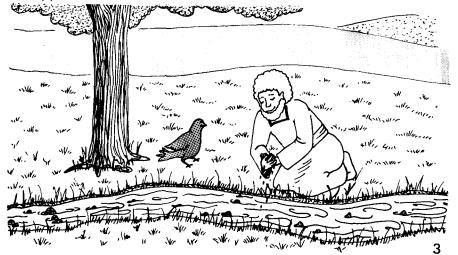
God did not tell Elijah right from the start to go to the widow woman once the brook dried up. It was after the brook dried up that 2

God told him to go. Have you ever seen a brook when it is drying up? It does not happen over night. It takes time. Every day, as the brook got drier, Elijah could have doubted. He could have said, "Oh, my, this brook is drying up! I wonder if God forgot about me. I wonder if I'll die of thirst if this brook dries up!" However, instead of doubting, Elijah continued believing God.

Elijah asked the widow woman for water and a bit of food. The woman told Elijah she had hardly any food left at all... only enough to make one more meal for herself and her son. Elijah told her to *first* make some food for him. He told her that the barrel of flour and oil would not run out the whole time there was no rain. Elijah knew this because God had told him.

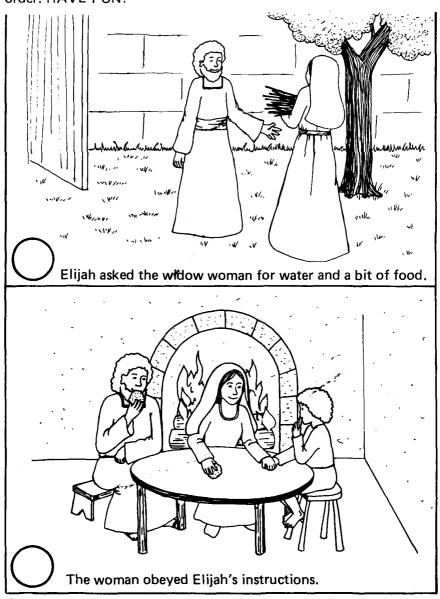
Again, look at what God told Elijah to do. God did not give instructions for Elijah to go to the king for food. Instead, God sent him to a widow woman (a woman whose husband had died), to have her give him food. In I Kings 17:16 the Word says that the whole time there was no rain (which was three years and six months) their food supply never ran out!

It was the desire of God's heart to care for Elijah, yet Elijah was not even a born-again believer. Ephesians 1:4 says God chose us to be His children today. As His sons and daughters we can cast our cares upon Him as I Peter 5:7 says. We can pray with confidence the way I John 5:14 says. We can expect results when we pray, knowing God will care for us and will meet our every need, just as He promises in Philippians 4:19!



What Comes First?

God took care of Elijah even in the midst of a terrible situation. God told Elijah exactly what to do and Elijah obeyed. In the pictures on pages 4 and 5, figure out what happened first, second, third and fourth. Then, put a 1, 2, 3 or 4 in each circle so the pictures are in order. HAVE FUN!



Retemories

Ephesians 1:4:

According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love.

I Peter 5:7:

Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

I John 5:14:

And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us.

III John 2:

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

I John 3:2a:

Beloved, now are we the sons of God....



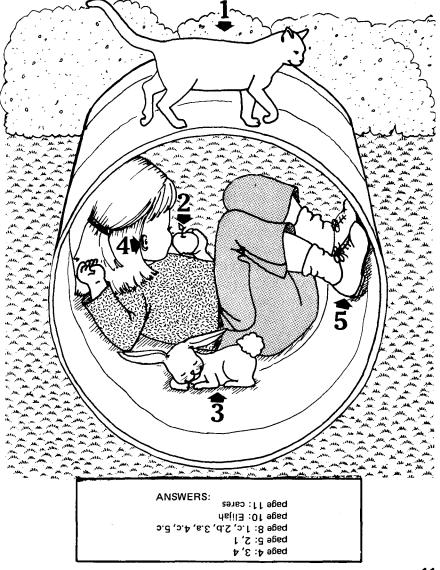


Match the answers to the numbers and letters in the blocks and print them on the lines.

5+0 2+10 3+6 2+8 0+1 1+7

God $\frac{1}{1}$ for you!

Below is a picture with some numbers in it. Each number points to an object. Write the first letter each object begins with on the line above with the same number.



Tenderly He Watches

Tenderly He watches over you,
Ev'ry step, ev'ry mile of the way.
Like a mother watching o'er her children,
He will guide you ev'ry hour of the day.
When you're weak, when you're strong,
When you're right, when you're wrong,
In your joy and in pain,
When you lose, and when you gain.
Tenderly He watches over you,
Ev'ry step, ev'ry mile of the way.

There are days when the world is uncertain, And the power of this world is unknown; But a far greater power is in you, Ever watchful, He cares for His own.

Tenderly He watches over you,

Ev'ry step, ev'ry mile of the way.

Like a mother watching o'er her children,

He will guide you ev'ry hour of the day.

Long before time began,

You were part of His plan,

Let no fear cloud your brow,

He will not forsake you now.

Tenderly He watches over you,

Ev'ry step, ev'ry mile of the way.