

## Going Deeper

Elijah's miracle of raising the widow of Zarephath's son from the dead is the first recorded miracle in the Bible of someone being raised from the dead. There are two other incidents in the Old Testament, both connected with Elisha, Elijah's apprentice (2 Kings 4:18-37; 13:20-21). There are three recorded incidents of Jesus raising a dead person (Mark 5:35-43; Luke 7:11-17; John 11:17-43), one of Peter (Acts 10:36-43) and one of Paul (Acts 20:7-12).

Read **John 11:17-43**

5. What was the situation when Jesus arrived in Bethany?
  
6. What does Martha already believe?
  
7. What remarkable claim does Jesus make about himself?  
How does Martha's response to this claim explain why Jesus can make this claim?
  
8. What is Mary's complaint (vs. 32)? How does Jesus respond?
  
9. Why did Jesus weep if he knew he would raise Lazarus from the dead? (cf. vs. 11)
  
10. Why is the raising of Lazarus from the dead more amazing than any of the other similar miracles in the Bible (see above)?

*Now do the applying it to our lives questions...*

# GROWTH TEAMS



**Week Beginning  
Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2019**

## Growth Team News

This week we are back to 1 Kings, but rather than focussing on a king we are going to focus on a prophet: Elijah. Elijah is involved in a hearts and minds battle over which God Israel are going to follow. Will it be the true God who made heaven and earth and rescued Israel from slavery in Egypt to give them the promised land or the god of King Ahab's wife, Jezebel, the god of Baal who promises to be the god of rain and life?

**Growing in Christ  
to glorify God  
and enjoy Him forever**



## Elijah: Prophet of the God of Life

1 Kings 17:1-24 (page 358)

Space to take notes on the talk

The LORD verses \_\_\_\_\_

The LORD gives \_\_\_\_\_:

• To the \_\_\_\_\_

• To the \_\_\_\_\_

• To the \_\_\_\_\_

## Starter question

❖ What is the most interesting place you have travelled to?

## Responding to the talk

1. What newspaper headline would you give this passage?
2. Read 17:1-6
  - a. How does Elijah's message to Ahab challenge his policy of promoting Baal, the Phoenician god of rain? (cf. 16:31-33)
  - b. Why did God send Elijah into hiding from Ahab? (see 18:4)
  - c. How does this miracle remind Israel of what they've forgotten about the LORD? (cf. Exodus 16:8, 12-15)
3. Read 17:7-16
  - a. Where is Zarephath and why does God send Elijah there? (cf. 16:31-34)
  - b. What would have made Elijah's request in verse 13 so challenging?
  - c. What does the woman's faith achieve? How would this be a challenge to Israel? (cf. Luke 4:24-26)
4. Read 17:17-24
  - a. Was it right for the widow and Elijah to complain to God?
  - b. How does the description of the boy's death and resuscitation remind us that life is from God? (cf. Gen. 2:7)
  - c. In Phoenician mythology, Baal is subject to Mot, the god of death. How does this story show that the LORD is greater than Baal?

You may like to do the 'Going Deeper' questions over the page.

## Applying it to our lives

11. What alternative ways of living are around today that promise a better life, but call us away from loyalty to Jesus?
12. A non-Christian friend asks you what being a Christian can offer you that nothing else can. How would you answer them?