



FINDING FAITH: Small Group Bible Study inspired the movie by "Zarephath"

INTRODUCTION

Zarephath retells the Old Testament account of the widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17:7-24) through the eyes of Meira, a widowed mother facing the unthinkable: with only enough flour left for one last meal, she and her son Yael are staring down starvation in the midst of a devastating drought. Into her desperation walks Elijah, a stranger and prophet of God, who asks her to share their last meal with him. What follows is a story of costly obedience, provision beyond understanding, and even resurrection, as Meira's faith is stretched to its very limit. Her journey challenges viewers to consider what it means to trust God completely when there seems to be nothing left to give.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. OBEDIENCE IN THE FACE OF SCARCITY

- When Elijah asks Meira to give him a portion of her last meal before feeding herself and her son, he is asking her to act in faith before she sees any provision. What does her willingness to obey, despite the apparent cost, teach us about trusting God when resources seem impossibly scarce?
- Read 1 Kings 17:13-16 and Proverbs 3:5-6. How does Meira's response reflect the call to trust God rather than lean on our own understanding? What does this passage teach us about God's provision?



2. SUFFERING, LOSS AND THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD

- Meira endures the disappearance of her husband, drought, near-starvation, and then the death of her son. Even as a woman marked by faith, she is not spared from deep suffering. How does the film's portrayal of Meira's grief help us understand that faith does not exempt believers from hardship?
- Read Job 1:20-21 and Romans 8:28. How do these passages help us reconcile deep suffering with belief in a sovereign, good God? What does Meira's story suggest about grieving honestly while still trusting God's purposes?



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

3. RESURRECTION POWER



- When Elijah prays over Yael's lifeless body and the boy is raised back to life, the film points beyond the natural into the miraculous power of God. What does this moment reveal about God's character and His authority over life and death?

- Read 1 Kings 17:17-24 and John 11:25-26. How does this Old Testament miracle foreshadow Christ's own power over death? What does it teach us about the God we worship being both near to our suffering and sovereign over it?

4. GOD'S UNSEEN WAYS

- Throughout the film, Meira is unaware that God is watching over her, orchestrating her circumstances even when she feels utterly alone and abandoned. How does this theme of God's hidden providence speak to seasons in our own lives when we feel forgotten by Him?

- Read Psalm 139:1-12 and Deuteronomy 31:6. How do these passages assure us that God is intimately present even in our darkest, most isolated moments? What comfort can we draw from knowing that His watchful care does not depend on our awareness of it?



REFLECTION & APPLICATION

Where in your life is God asking you to trust Him with what feels like your "last portion" - whether that is time, resources, energy, or hope?

Reflect on a season where you felt forgotten by God, only to later recognize His hidden hand at work. Consider what it would look like to obey God in scarcity, trusting that His provision sometimes comes after the step of faith, not before it.



PRAYER

Close the Bible study with a time of prayer, inviting participants to bring before God any areas of scarcity, fear, or grief they are currently facing.

Pray for the faith to obey even when resources or hope seem exhausted, and for eyes to see God's hidden provision and presence in seasons of hardship. Pray for one another's trust to be renewed, just as Meira's was.



CONCLUSION

Like Meira, we are never asked to walk through scarcity, suffering, or loss without God. Her story reminds us that faith is often tested precisely where we feel we have nothing left to give, and that God's provision and power are displayed in our weakness and need. Encourage each other to trust in the character of God, remembering that He is always at work, even when unseen.

