

Next Steps: We have all probably heard the phrase, “God works in mysterious ways.” God’s ways are mysterious to us... because we don’t always have the clearest picture of who God is and why He does what He does. But I can assure you that God’s ways are quite purposeful. And so it is with this miraculous story.

Read 1 Kings 17:7-24.

What is the attitude the widow has before she meets Elijah?

How does God bless her after she meets Elijah?

According to her, what is the cause of her son’s illness and death?

Who does Elijah blame for the death of the boy?

Ultimately, how does Elijah respond to this tragedy?

How does the widow’s opinion of God change after her son’s resurrection back to life? (compare 1 Kings 17:12 w/ 1 Kings 17:24)

Read 2 Peter 3:8-9

What is God’s “long view” toward “keeping his promise?”

Read John 9

What are the misconceptions the disciples had about the blind man?

What does Jesus say about these misconceptions (John 9:3)?

Why are the religious leaders all riled up (John 9:14)?

What is more important to Jesus: following rules or loving people?

What are the misconceptions the religious leaders have about Jesus (and the man born blind)?

How does the man finally respond to Jesus? (John 9:38)