

God the giver of life

1 Kings 17:17-24

- I. The test of tragedy: The son of Elijah's hostess died (17:17-18)
 - A. Her tragedy: The son of a good woman died (17).
 - B. Her anger at Elijah and God: The woman assumed God was malicious and punishing her sin (18).

- II. The test of faith: Elijah prayed for the boy to be miraculously resurrected (17:19-21).
 - A. Elijah's doubt: Elijah questioned God's will (19-20).
 - B. Elijah's faith: Elijah prayed fervently anyhow (21).

- III. The power of prayer: God answered Elijah's prayer – resurrecting the boy (17:22-23).
 - A. God's care: God listened and answered Elijah's radical prayer (22).
 - B. God's grace: The woman received her son back (23).

- IV. The purpose of answered prayer: The woman learned to trust God's authority (17:24).
 - A. The widow acknowledged Elijah's spiritual authority (24a).
 - B. The widow acknowledged the ultimate authority of God's word (24b).