

AMAZING STORIES

The Shunemmite Woman (Elisha)

Sunday, July 2, 2023

Dave Michel

Stepping Stones Community Church

1. The woman from Shunem

- Great hospitality
- No reward or payment wanted
- Blessed for her kindness and service

⁸ One day Elisha went to the town of Shunem. A wealthy woman lived there, and she urged him to come to her home for a meal. After that, whenever he passed that way, he would stop there for something to eat. ⁹ She said to her husband, "I am sure this man who stops in from time to time is a holy man of God. ¹⁰ Let's build a small room for him on the roof and furnish it with a bed, a table, a chair, and a lamp. Then he will have a place to stay whenever he comes by." **2 Kings 4:8-10 NLT**

¹⁴ Later Elisha asked Gehazi, "What can we do for her?" Gehazi replied, "She doesn't have a son, and her husband is an old man." ¹⁵ "Call her back again," Elisha told him. When the woman returned, Elisha said to her as she stood in the doorway, ¹⁶ "Next year at this time you will be holding a son in your arms!" "No, my lord!" she cried. "O man of God, don't deceive me and get my hopes up like that." ¹⁷ But sure enough, the woman soon became pregnant. And at that time the following year she had a son, just as Elisha had said.

2 Kings 4:14-17 NLT

2. Her son becomes ill and dies

- She puts her faith in God
- She gives thanks to God for the miracle

¹⁸ One day when her child was older, he went out to help his father, who was working with the harvesters. ¹⁹ Suddenly he cried out, "My head hurts! My head hurts!" His father said to one of the servants, "Carry him home to his mother." ²⁰ So the servant took him home, and his mother held him on her lap. But around noontime he died. **2 Kings 4:18-20 NLT**

²⁸ Then she said, "Did I ask you for a son, my lord? And didn't I say, 'Don't deceive me and get my hopes up'?"

²⁹ Then Elisha said to Gehazi, "Get ready to travel; take my staff and go! Don't talk to anyone along the way. Go quickly and lay the staff on the child's face." **2 Kings 4:28-29 NLT**

3. Lessons from the Shunemmite woman

- Generosity and hospitality
- Great faith and trust in God
- Gratitude towards God

Next Steps:

- Look for opportunities to show kindness and hospitality this week
- Put my faith in God for a current trial/problem in my life: _____
- Intentionally give thanks to God: _____
- Read 2 Kings 4:8-37 this week
- _____