

Helping The Helpful

Bible Story from 2 Kings 4:8-37

Elisha went from town to town doing God's work. He passed through the town of Shunem (SHOO-num) often. A woman and her husband lived there and invited Elisha to stay for a meal. So whenever Elisha came to this town, he knew he could have a meal with these kind people.

One day the woman said to her husband, "Let's help Elisha. We can build a room on our roof for him. That way he can be more comfortable while he's traveling." Her husband agreed. When the room was completed, they furnished it with a

_____, a _____,
a _____, and a _____.

Read 2 Kings 4:10 to find out what they placed in the room.

During one of those times when Elisha stayed with the couple, he sent his servant Gehazi (guh-HAY-zye) to ask the woman if she needed anything.

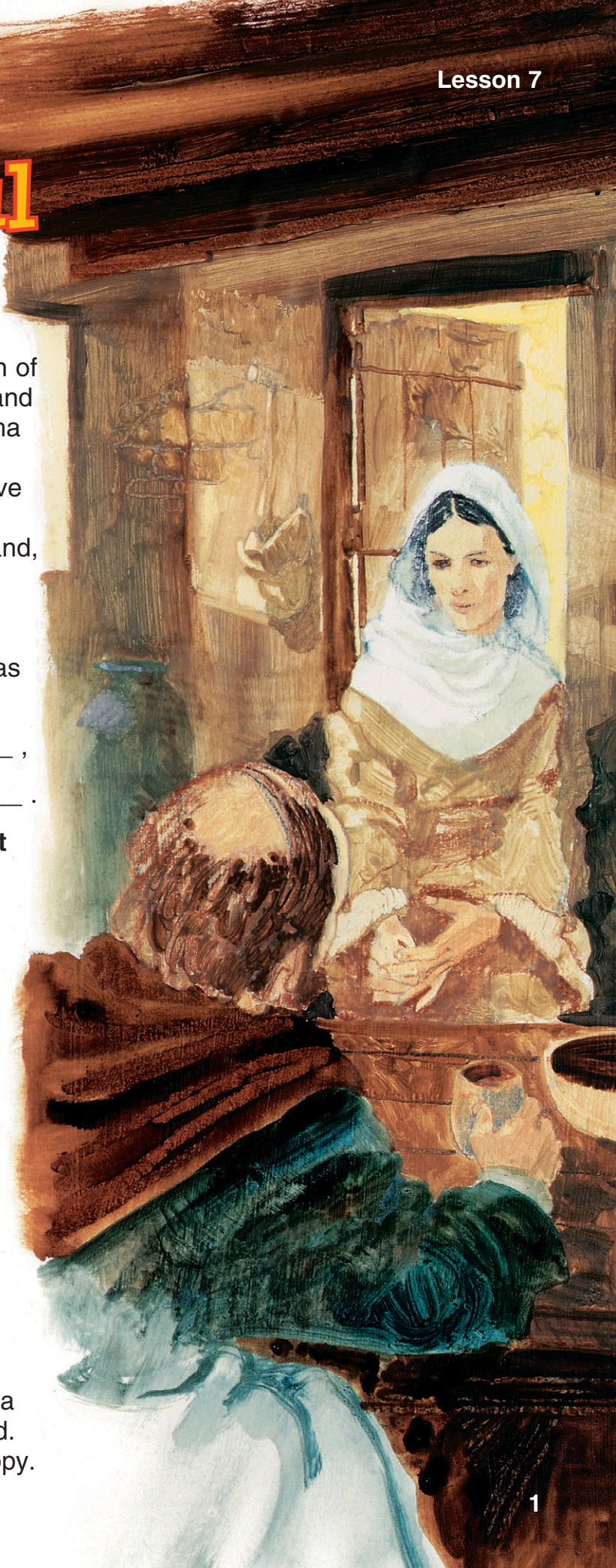
Gehazi soon returned. "Well?" Elisha asked. "What does she want?"

"She would like to have a son, but her husband is old," Gehazi replied.

Elisha had the woman brought to him. He said, "Because you have been so kind to me, next year God will give you and your husband a son."

The woman couldn't believe her ears. Was Elisha telling her the truth? She wanted to be happy and believe him, but how could this be true?

But it was true! The next year she had a baby boy! Elisha really was a man of God. The lady and her husband were very happy.





The son grew. One day while the boy was with his father, he complained, "Father, my head hurts." The father told his servant to take the boy to his mother.

Later that day the boy died. The woman was very sad. She took her son up to Elisha's room, laid him on the bed, and closed the door. "I have to go see Elisha," thought the woman. "He's a man who knows God. Maybe he can help me."

Elisha saw the woman coming toward him and sent Gehazi to meet her. "How's everything?" he asked.

"Elisha, why did you give me a son?" she cried. "Why did you raise my hopes? Now my son has died." Elisha returned to the woman's house with her. When they

arrived, Elisha wanted to be alone with the boy. What happened next was a miracle! Elisha stretched himself over the boy and the boy began to come back to life. Elisha heard him sneeze. He sneezed seven times and then opened his eyes.

Elisha held the boy and thanked God for answering his prayer. Then he told Gehazi to get the boy's mother. The mother could hardly believe her eyes. Her little boy was alive again! The woman thanked Elisha over and over. Then she looked up at heaven and thanked the God of Elisha. "Thank You, God, for Elisha's help . . . and for Yours."



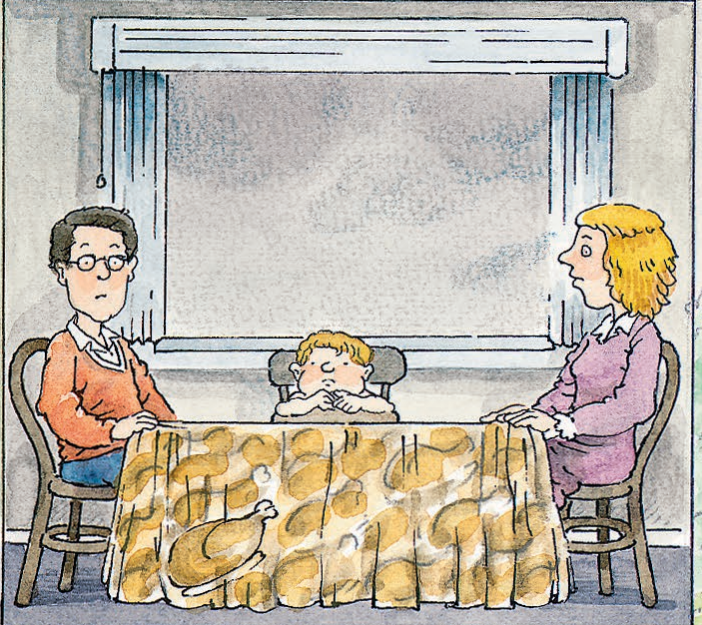
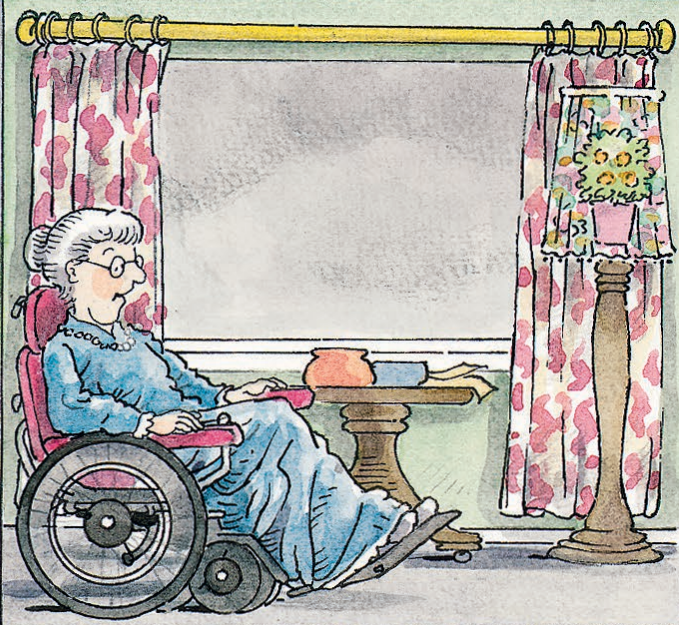
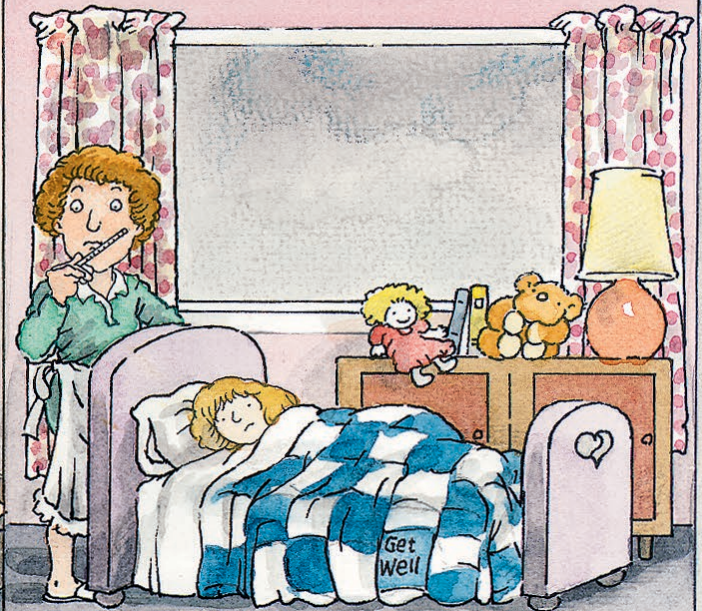
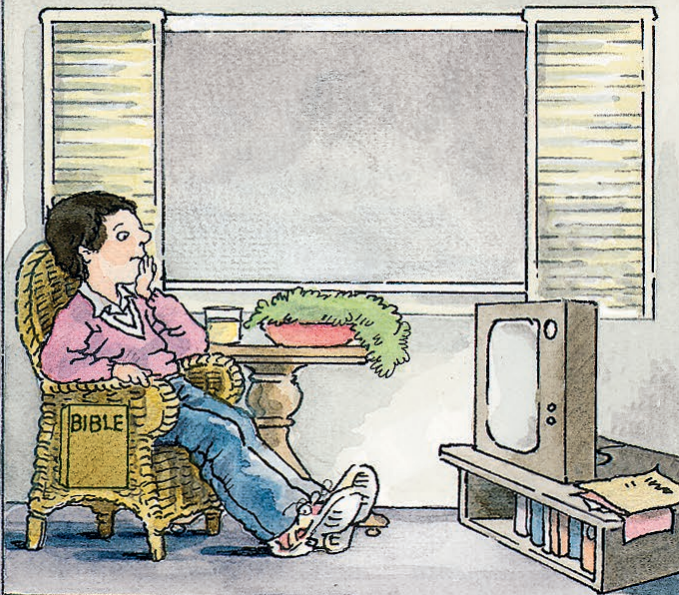
Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Romans 12:13

Where's the Sunshine?



Today is not a happy time for everyone. Some people—like the ones in this apartment building—are sad. Some don't know about Jesus. Others are sick or lonely. Some have no money to buy food. They need help from someone like you! Look in each apartment for a hidden object that you could bring someone there. Circle each item when you find it and tell how it could bring sunshine.



K.C. AND

THE CASE ABOUT HELPING

PERFORM THIS DRAMA to see if K.C., Bible Investigator, can solve the case about which tasks were done with a willing heart. You need three friends. K.C. can wear a trench coat and hold a magnifying glass as a costume.

K.C.: Hi! I'm K.C. I'm a Bible Investigator. I help kids solve mysteries about what God wants them to do. Today I'm . . .

KYLIE: *(rushing in and interrupting K.C.)* I'm so glad you are here. You have to help me right away!

K.C.: Okay, Kylie. Slow down. What do you need help with?

KYLIE: That's the thing. My friends and I are looking for ways to help others and we don't know what to do. Come on, they're all over here.

K.C.: *(walking over with Kylie to her friends)* So, tell me a little more about your problem.

GABRIEL: Well, in Sunday school last week we discovered we should learn from people who follow God. We talked to a bunch of people we know who follow God and they all talked about helping people, but we don't know what to do.

K.C.: Well, I bet you are helping a lot more than you already think. Kylie, don't you have a little brother and sister? What do you do with them?

KYLIE: Well, I do play with them and sometimes get them dressed. But why are you asking me that?

K.C.: That's helping! I bet your parents are really thankful that you help with the twins. Gabriel, what do you do every morning before school?

GABRIEL: I make my bed and I take out the trash. But those are my chores. I have to do those things.

K.C.: Even if they are chores, you are still helping by doing what you were asked to do. If you didn't do your chores, someone else would have to do it.

ALLISON: K.C., you just gave me an idea! If doing our chores can be helping, doing our chores without being asked or doing someone else's chores too must be helping. Am I right?

K.C.: That's right, Allison. You can help in lots of ways. Even the things you think are small might be a big help to someone else.

GABRIEL: Wow! Thanks, K.C. for helping us uncover ways we already help others at home. Come on! Let's think of ways we can help others at school.

