

Elijah: Man of Prayer

(2) Continuing in Prayer in the Face of Continual Disappointment

“The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

“Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly.” Jas 5:16-17

1. Continual Disappointments

	Elijah at Cherith	Elijah at Zarephath	The Widow of Zarephath	
1.	The Word of God	v 2	v 8	v 14a
2.	A Strange Command	v 3	v 9a	v 13
3.	A Promise that Will Work	v 4	v 9b	v 14b
4.	Response by Obeying	v 5	v 10a	v 15a
5.	Initial Fulfilment	v 6	vv 10b-11	vv 15b-16
6.	Disappointment	v 7	v 12	v 17

The Point to Disappointment (Elijah at Cherith):

- 1) A reminder to trust God, not His gifts
- 2) To find a woman, chosen by God
- 3) Pre-empting the Gospel to the Gentiles (Luke 4:25-26)
- 4) Occasion for Elijah's first two miracles

2. The Latest Crisis

- 1) The Widow's Complaint, v 18
- 2) Elijah takes the child away, v 19
- 3) Elijah's Prayers to God
 - His opening prayer, v 20
 - His continuing prayers, v 21
- 4) God's Answer to Elijah, v 22
- 5) Elijah takes the child back, v 23
- 6) The Widow's Confession, v 24

3. Continuing in Prayer

- 1) The Prayer of a Righteous Man
- 2) His first resort was to be alone with God in prayer
- 3) Fervent Prayer
- 4) Personal Prayer
- 5) He recognised God's sovereignty
- 6) Appeal to God's mercy
- 7) Persistent Prayer
- 8) Specific