

## **“Pouring a Miracle”**

by  
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**What** This Reader's Theater focuses on the story of the widow had only a jar of olive oil to save her sons from slavery, and the miraculous way the jar overflowed to help pay her debt. It reminds us that when we have faith, God can use what little we have to transform lives.

Themes: Faith, Miracles, Old Testament, Grief, God’s plan, Community, Loss, Transformation

**Who** Reader 1  
Reader 2

**When** Present

**Costumes  
and  
Props** Two black binders for scripts.

**Why** 2 Kings 4

**How** Can be staged with readers seated on high stools or standing. Readers should have matching binders. They should be very familiar with the script, but memorization is not required.

For more ideas on how to perform a Reader’s Theatre watch [“How to Perform a Reader’s Theatre” at SkitGuys.com.](#)

**Time** Approximately 3-4 minutes

*Readers enter and take their places on stage.*

**Reader 1:** A widow was in debt she could not pay.

**Reader 2:** Looming over her was the creditor's threat to take her children as slaves to satisfy the obligation.

**Reader 1:** Her late husband had been a God-follower, a servant of the Lord.

**Reader 2:** His death left her gasping for air, scrambling to recover.

**Reader 1:** And now? To lose her two sons in this way?

**Reader 2:** Desperate, broken, she called to the prophet of God.

**Reader 1:** Oh, that we would never hesitate to call for help from the people of God.

**Reader 2:** Elisha, prophet, teacher of prophets, worker of miracles—Elisha heard her plea, and he chose to get involved.

**Reader 1:** Oh, that we would make the same choice to get involved with those who are desperately in need.

**Reader 2:** Elisha knew what the desperate woman didn't have. She had no partner. She had no resources. She had no hope.

**Reader 1:** So he asked her a simple question: "What DO you have?"

**Reader 2:** Her answer? I have nothing...EXCEPT a jar of olive oil.

**Reader 1:** That word: EXCEPT. The whole miracle we are about to witness hinges on that word.

**Reader 2:** What if she had stopped at "I have nothing"? What then?

**Reader 1:** We cannot know, of course. But we do know this...this shared afterthought... "Well, I do have a little bit of olive oil"...that paved the way for a revelation of God's power.

**Reader 2:** Oh, that we would learn to see what we have rather than what we have not.

**Reader 1:** The prophet sent her home with a plan.

**Reader 2:** A bizarre, outlandish, peculiar plan, indeed. But she listened.

**Reader 1:** Oh, that we would have faith to follow God's plan, even when it seems to make no sense.

**Reader 2:** The prophet told her, "Go to all your neighbors and borrow containers, make sure they're empty." The King James translation says poetically, "borrow not a few." In other words...find all you can. And it seems the neighbors responded.

**Reader 1:** I wish I could see the assemblage. Pots, pans, bowls, vases, cups with broken handles. Whatever they had to give, they gave.

**Reader 2:** Oh, that we would be this kind of neighbor—willing to say yes and give what we have, even if it's a cracked pot.

**Reader 1:** This woman of faith and her boys gathered all the containers and shut themselves into the house. This next step was not for the eyes of the public. Did they understand that they were about to experience a sacred moment?

**Reader 2:** Were they prepared for a miracle right inside the four walls of their own home?

**Reader 1:** Oh, that we would learn to understand that God's greatest miracles often happen hidden away, behind closed doors, as we faithfully follow His instructions.

**Reader 2:** Then, as instructed, she began to pour from her own vessel of oil into an empty one. Was that first vessel small or large? If it were me, I'm not sure I would have had the faith to start with a gallon size receptacle.

**Reader 1:** But maybe she did. Can you imagine the look on her face and the faces of those children when the oil kept pouring?

**Reader 2:** When that first container was full, she asked for another. And another. And another. And another. How many times...how many containers? I wish I knew.

**Reader 1:** How did her wonder grow? What about the boys? Did they laugh in disbelief? Were they in awe?

**Reader 2:** Oh, that we would revel in the beauty of God's miracle-working power, still on display in our world today.

**Reader 1:** When finally, she called for another vessel, only to be told that all had been filled, did she finally look around to see every flat surface in her home covered in vessels full of precious olive oil?

**Reader 2:** Oh, that we would realize how much God wants to pour into our lives if only we are willing to pour into other vessels who are empty.

**Reader 1:** The widow ran to the prophet. He told her to sell the oil, pay the debt, and use the rest to live on. God went above and beyond...as he often does. Not only did he meet her immediate need, but he also met her future needs.

**Reader 2:** But...she still had to do some work. She and the boys had to sell the oil. They had to be active participants in the miracle.

**Reader 1:** Oh, that we would realize that God desires to partner with us to transform not only our own lives, but the lives of those around us.

**Reader 2:** Oh, that we would realize that the fuel to fill our lamps to light the world comes miraculously from God...as long as we are willing to be poured out.

**Reader 1:** Oh, Lord teach us the faith of the widow!

*Lights fade.*

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