Part 4 – The Generous Life
When there doesn't seem to be enough.

- **What do you do when there doesn't seem to be enough?**

1 Kings 17:7-16
Some time later the brook dried up because there had been no rain in the land. Then the word of the Lord came to him: "Go at once to Zarephath in the region of Sidon and stay there. I have directed a widow there to supply you with food."

So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks.

He called to her and asked, "Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?" As she was going to get it, he called, "And bring me, please, a piece of bread."

"As surely as the Lord your God lives," she replied, "I don't have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die."

Elijah said to her, "Don't be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son.

For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: 'The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the Lord sends rain on the land.'"

She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family.

For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the Lord spoken by Elijah.

- **The Paradox of Provision**

- **Know that where God guides, God provides.**

Philippians 4:19
And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

- **See every need as an opportunity to trust God.**

Proverbs 3:5-6
Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

- **Start giving to God first.**

1 Kings 17:13
Elijah said to her, "Don't be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son.

1 Kings 17:14
For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: 'The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the Lord sends rain on the land.'"

- **There is a supernatural provision that happens when you give to God first.**

Proverbs 3:9-10
Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

- **Be faithful in the little.**

- **A little generosity can go a long way.**

Luke 16:10
Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.

- **God provided for her day by day.**

Psalm 37:25
I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread.