



# Shepherd's Path

## A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

### Discovery Digs Series, Lesson 3

**Lesson Title:** God Miraculously Provides for Elijah

**Take Home Point:** Trust God to take care of you.

#### Warm-Up:

I am teaching my daughter how to drive. When we leave the garage to run an errand, I do not tell her, "Okay, take a left to get to Main Street, turn south on Main, go through three intersections, take the next left, go four blocks, turn into the store parking lot and find a place to park. Oh, and on the way, stop for gas at the station at the second intersection. And remember that Main Street has construction closing one lane so you'll need to get into the left lane after the second intersection. Then on the way home we need to make a stop at the Post Office." I could tell her all that, but would likely have to repeat it as we go. She doesn't worry about it anyway. She figures I know where we are going and how to get there, and trusts me to give her the direction she needs when she needs it.

**Read:** 1 Kings 16:29-17:16; Proverbs 3:5

#### Observation (What happened?):

According to 1 Kings 17:5, 10, what did Elijah do when the Lord gave him instructions?

How many people survived because of the woman's willingness to do as Elijah asked?

#### Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Why do you think the Lord had Elijah hide during the time of drought?

How much of God's plan did Elijah know before he received instructions from God?

#### Insight:

Isn't it interesting that God's premier prophet was told to hide during the three years of drought? Three years out of Elijah's life. That's a long time, time he could have spent encouraging the people of Israel to follow God's ways. Even if silent, Elijah could have lived a godly lifestyle before the Israelites. But that's not what God had him do. God had Elijah where the Israelites could not hear or see him. Do you think Elijah was frustrated? We don't know, but I wonder if he lived today what Christians would say about his hiding: "God has gifted you and given you talents! You need to be using his gifts to serve others in the church and in public. You will be wasting them if you don't use them!" Even if we don't hear it from others, most of us tell ourselves the same thing because of what we have been taught. Our action-oriented Christian culture leaves little room for listening to God say, "Stop. Hide. Trust my plan. I don't need you to do anything right now except trust me to take care of you – and everyone else, too." I constantly need to relearn that lesson. The writer of Ecclesiastes 3:1 had it right, *"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven."*

#### Application (What does it mean to me?):

What is God telling you to do that you don't really understand? How will you respond?

Take a moment to thank God for his leading you and keeping his promises in the past.

### Lesson 3