

ELIJAH

June 22

2 Kings 4:8-17

Enough room(s)

One day Elisha went to a town called Shumen. A woman who lived there with her husband invited Elisha to stay for a meal. She told Elisha that he should come and have a meal with them whenever he passed through their town.

One day the woman said to her husband, "I know that this is a holy man of God. Let's build a small room on the roof of the house, and put in a bed, a table and chair, and a lamp. Then he can stay with us whenever he comes this way."

One day, while Elisha was in his new room, he called the woman and said to her, "About this time next year, you will have a son." And the woman became pregnant and had a son the following year, just as Elisha had said.

What is hospitality?

Have your parents invited someone to stay in your home for a few days or even months? It may have been your grandparents, or a friend who needed a place to stay. The Holy Spirit has given some people the gift of hospitality. People with this gift are really good at making others feel welcome in their home—be it for a meal or to stay for a while. Whether you have the gift of hospitality or not, you too can make others feel welcome. The Bible says, "Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms" 1 Peter 4:9-10.

Although the woman and her husband did not have enough space at first, they made a plan and did what they could. You might not be able to invite others to your home now, but you can share what you have.

For example, you could show a new person at school where everything is, and introduce them to your friends. You can also be friendly to new kids at church so that they will look forward to coming again. Simply share what you have with others—even if it is your big smile!

Verse for today

Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Romans 12:13