

Elisha Helps Make the Food Good

II Kings 4:38-41

In the town of Gilgal Elisha could see dry fields. There had not been rain for a long time. The crops did not grow. The people were hungry.

Elisha was in Gilgal to meet with a group of men who were learning to be special helpers for God. The men were hungry.

“Make a pot of hot stew for these men,” said Elisha to a servant.

The servant had to have something to use to make the stew, so he went to a nearby field. He looked and looked for any vegetables that could be eaten. He found some good-tasting herbs. Then he saw a wild vine with large plants called “gourds” on it. The man decided the gourds would be good in the stew. He gathered as many as he could carry and hurried back.

The servant put a big pot of water on the fire to heat. He crumbled up the herbs he had found and placed them in the pot. He cut up the gourds and threw them in the pot too. As the herbs and gourds started cooking, the stew started cooking, the stew smelled good to the hungry men.

“It’s ready,” called the servant as he dished up a bowl of hot stew. “Oh, yuck!” cried one of the men. “Something is wrong with this stew. It tastes awful!”

“This stew will make us sick! We will die!” called out another man. The men stopped eating the stew.

Elisha knew the men needed the food. “Bring me some flour,” he said to the servant.

Elisha sprinkled some of the flour into the stew and stirred it around.

“Now serve the stew to the men,” he said.

Carefully the men put the stew into their mouths. “MMmmmm,” they said. “The stew is good.”

God helped Elisha do a good work so the men would have food to eat.

Bible Verse to Learn

“Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work.” (Titus 3:1)