

**Berean Christian Church
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Bible Study

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October 24, 2017

**How Single Parents Can Flourish
II Kings 4:1-7**

II Thessalonians 1:3 reads, *“Dear brothers and sisters, we can’t help but thank God for you, because your faith is flourishing and your love for one another is growing.”* (NLT) This verse records Paul's words of compliment to a group of people who were experiencing hardships as believers. Many people experience financial difficulties in life and often can't see their way out of the situation. In most cases, not only do they survive, but after their storm they actually thrive. This lesson is designed to share how single parents can flourish even after tragedy strikes.

Breakdown of II Kings 4:1-7

1. The Problems for the Mother **Verse 1**
2. The Proposals to the Mother **Verses 2-4**
3. The Practices by the Mother **Verses 5-7**

1. Single parents can flourish through Insight about others.
Verse 1

“The wife of a man from the company of the prophets cried out to Elisha, “Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that he revered the LORD. But now his creditor is coming to take my two boys as his slaves.” (NIV)

2. Single parents can flourish through Input from others.
Verses 2, 3

“Elisha replied to her, “How can I help you? Tell me, what do you have in your house?” “Your servant has nothing there at all,” she said, “except a small jar of olive oil.” 3) Elisha said, “Go around and ask all your neighbors for empty jars. Don’t ask for just a few.” (NIV)

3. Single parents can flourish through Investments in others.
Verse 4

“Then go inside and shut the door behind you and your sons. Pour oil into all the jars, and as each is filled, put it to one side.” (NIV)

(Over)

