

THE BIBLE TELLS ABOUT STEWARDSHIP

THE WOMAN FROM SHUNEM AND HER HUSBAND OPEN UP THEIR HOME

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: 2 Kings 4:8-37

Elisha was a prophet. He showed the power of God to the people by healing the sick and performing miracles. Elisha traveled a lot.

In the town of Shunem, where Elisha sometimes stopped to rest, there lived a friendly woman and her husband. When they heard Elisha was coming by Shunem, they would ask him to stop for lunch. This happened so often that the woman and her husband built a small room where Elisha could stay whenever he wanted to.

Elisha appreciated their hospitality and their willingness to open up their home for him and he wanted to reward this woman's kindness. But she said to him: "I live with my own people. I need nothing, thank you.

Elisha saw that the woman and her husband did not have a son. He said to her, "About this time next year you will have a baby boy of your own."

Elisha was right! The woman had a baby boy. The boy grew up. He was a healthy boy who worked with his father in the fields. One day the boy suddenly became very ill and died. His mother laid his body on the bed in Elisha's room.

Then she told her husband: "I must go find Elisha. Send for one of the servants. Bring me a donkey."

As fast as she could go, she went looking for Elisha. He saw her coming a long way off. When she reached Elisha, she threw herself down and took hold of his feet. She told him why she was so sad.

The woman would not go back without Elisha, so he went with her. As soon as he saw the boy, Elisha closed the door to the room. Then he prayed. He blew his own breath into the boy's lungs. He stretched his body on the boy's body. All the time he prayed.

Suddenly the boy sneezed. He opened his eyes.

Elisha called for the boy's mother. She was so happy she threw herself on the ground in front of Elisha. Then she picked up her boy. He was well again.

Through Elisha, God rewarded this woman for all that she gave to one of God's servants.



WISELY USE WHAT YOU HAVE

Look at the puzzle below. Figure out the number that stands for each vowel, and then write in the missing letters for the Bible verse found in Ephesians 5:15,16.

A = _____ E = _____ I = 8 O = _____ U = _____

B _____ v _____ ry c _____ r _____ f _____ l, th _____ n,

h _____ w y _____ l _____ v _____ n _____ t _____ s

_____ nw _____ s _____ b _____ t _____ s w _____ s _____,

m _____ k _____ ng th _____ m _____ st _____ f _____ v _____ ry

_____ pp _____ r t _____ n _____ ty.

Put an X by the phrases that finish this sentence and write one idea of your own.

You are living in a wise way when you..

_____ use time to go to church and honor God.

_____ give some of your money to help others.

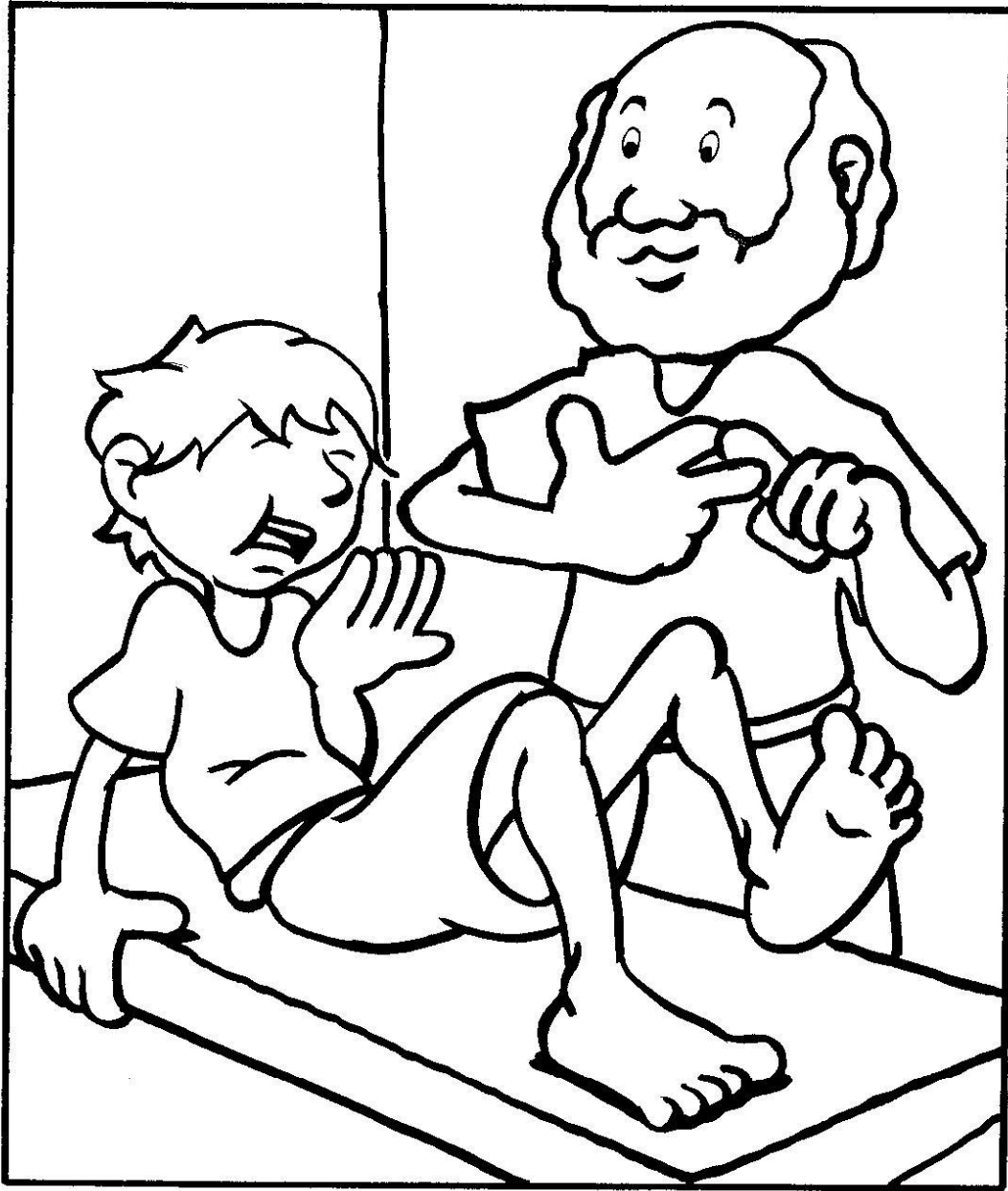
_____ don't waste food.

_____ never do your school work.

I _____ spend time taking good care of everything I have, including my
Do do not

Time, my health, and the world around me. Taking good care of everything I have is showing good stewardship. I can show that stewardship is becoming my value when I

_____.



One day Elisha stretched himself over the lifeless body of a boy. Slowly the boy grew warm; he sneezed seven times and opened his eyes. He was alive again!

2 Kings 4:32-36