

My provider

- In Genesis 22 we see the story of Abraham being obedient to God by taking Isaac to a place where God showed him to sacrifice Isaac to God. In verse 7-8 Isaac asks his father where is the lamb for the sacrifice?
- Abraham answers the Lord will provide. Then a little later in the story just as Abraham is about to sacrifice Isaac the Lord interrupts him and provides a ram for the sacrifice. Abraham named this place Yahweh-Yireh (the Lord will provide).
- I want to talk about the ways that God provides. In creation and in our lives.
- He provides for the earth
- **Deuteronomy 11:12 (NLT) — 12 a land that the LORD your God cares for. He watches over it through each season of the year!**
- **Deuteronomy 11:14–15 (NLT) — 14 then he will send the rains in their proper seasons—the early and late rains—so you can bring in your harvests of grain, new wine, and olive oil. 15 He will give you lush pastureland for your livestock, and you yourselves will have all you want to eat.**
- We have the scientific community to explain to us how the weather patterns work. The different influences on the weather pattern and even how mankind has affected the weather.
- The how is nice to know but it is in the who that we can trust that we will be taken care of. That who is God.
- God also provides for the animals.
- **Psalm 147:9 (NLT) — 9 He gives food to the wild animals and feeds the young ravens when they cry.**
- **Matthew 6:26 (NLT) — 26 Look at the birds. They don't plant or harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. And aren't you far more valuable to him than they are?**
- Did you ever wonder how do the animals know where to get their food? They hunt, fish and gather the food they need. Squirrels gather nuts for the winter. Some birds migrate to different areas so they can survive. We call it instinct but where did that instinct come from? Some say that over many years they learned that is what they need to do to survive. I say God taught them and put the knowledge into them so they would survive.
- God provides for all people.
- **Psalm 68:5 (NLT) — 5 Father to the fatherless, defender of widows— this is God, whose dwelling is holy.**
- **Psalm 107:9 (NLT) — 9 For he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.**

- He provides for the poor
- **1 Samuel 2:8 (NLT) — 8 He lifts the poor from the dust and the needy from the garbage dump. He sets them among princes, placing them in seats of honor. For all the earth is the LORD’s, and he has set the world in order.**
- **Psalm 146:7–9 (NLT) — 7 He gives justice to the oppressed and food to the hungry. The LORD frees the prisoners. 8 The LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are weighed down. The LORD loves the godly. 9 The LORD protects the foreigners among us. He cares for the orphans and widows, but he frustrates the plans of the wicked.**
- I remember hearing a story of a young man from Haiti and they were out of food. They prayed and then there at their front door was food for him and his family. There are many stories like that one.
- God provided for the children of Israel as they traveled through the wilderness. In Exodus 16 we see the mana that they were able to gather and in Exodus chapter 17 we see that God provided water from a rock. In Numbers chapter 11 He provided quail for them. In verse 32 it says no one gathered less than fifty bushels.
- God provides and he provides abundantly.
- He provides for those that serve Him.
- **1 Kings 17:13–16 (NLT)**
- **13 But Elijah said to her, “Don’t be afraid! Go ahead and do just what you’ve said, but make a little bread for me first. Then use what’s left to prepare a meal for yourself and your son. 14 For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: There will always be flour and olive oil left in your containers until the time when the LORD sends rain and the crops grow again!”**
- **15 So she did as Elijah said, and she and Elijah and her family continued to eat for many days. 16 There was always enough flour and olive oil left in the containers, just as the LORD had promised through Elijah.**
- The poor widow and her son had only a little flour and oil. Just enough to make one more meal and then they were prepared to die. They were at their last hope.
- Elijah asked her to make him some bread first and then for herself and her son.
- God promised that He would provide for this woman until the drought was over.
- God took care of this poor widow.
- Every time she went to get flour it was there and every time she went for the oil it was there.
- Can you imagine using all the flour and oil you have only to find your containers filled again?

- God's provision is personal for this widow. It is life changing and saving. She was down to her last meal to never being hungry.
- Don Moen wrote a praise song called Jehovah Jireh. Here are some of the lyrics.
- *Jehovah Jireh My Provider His grace is sufficient for me*
- *My God shall supply all my needs According to His riches in glory*
- *He will give His Angels Charge over me*
- Ok we have heard about some of God's provision now I want you to tell me how has God provided for you?
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