

MISSIONARY STORIES

REAL STORIES ABOUT SPREADING GODS WORD

The Mystery Basket on the Doorstep!

THIS STORY IS ABOUT: GOD PROVIDES EVERY NEED

BIG IDEA

God sees when we are down to our very last meal, and He cares. He can send exactly what we need, at exactly the right moment, in ways we never expected!

THE STORY

Far away in Africa, a missionary lady named Nona Freeman loved Jesus with all her heart. She and her husband, whom everybody called Bug, had traveled there to tell people the good news about God. They had several children to feed, and they worked very hard.

But this was a hard season. Money was very, very tight. There was important work to do and little ones to feed, but there simply was not enough money to buy what they needed. So Nona and Bug did the best thing they knew to do. They prayed. They prayed and prayed!

One morning, Nona stood in her kitchen and looked in the cupboards.

They were almost empty! The flour was gone. The sugar was gone.



MISSIONARY STORIES

REAL STORIES ABOUT SPREADING GODS WORD

THE STORY CONTINUES

There was no money to buy groceries. 'Lord,' she prayed, 'what am I going to feed my children for breakfast today?'

Right then, she heard a knock at the door. Knock, knock, knock! Nona wiped her hands and hurried to open it. But when she opened the door... nobody was there! She looked left. She looked right. The street was empty.

Then she looked down. There, on her very own doorstep, sat a large basket covered with a clean cloth! Nona lifted the cloth, and her eyes grew wide with wonder.

Inside the basket was everything she needed for a wonderful breakfast! Fresh bread. Eggs. Cool milk. Juicy fruit. Even a little jar of jam and some butter! There was no note. There was no name. There was nobody around who could have left it.

Nona looked up and down the street one more time. She asked her neighbors later that day. Nobody had seen a single thing! The basket had simply appeared at the exact moment her family needed it most.

Nona believed with all her heart that God had sent an angel with breakfast for her hungry children. That morning she set the table and fed her little ones, with happy tears running down her cheeks.

Nona never, ever forgot that day. For the rest of her life she told this story, and she always said: 'God knows when you are down to your last meal. He knows when your children are hungry. And He always, always sends help in time.'

The same God who fed the prophet Elijah by a brook, and who fed thousands of hungry people with just a few loaves and fishes, was still taking care of His servants. And sometimes, He even sends breakfast with an angel!





MISSIONARY STORIES

REAL STORIES ABOUT SPREADING GODS WORD

DID YOU KNOW?

- Nona Freeman was a real missionary who served in Africa and wrote more than twenty books about her adventures with God!
- Everybody affectionately called her husband 'Bug,' and Nona wrote books with titles like Beloved Wide Spot and Bug and Nona on the Go.
- In the Bible, God once fed the prophet Elijah by sending birds called ravens to bring him bread and meat (1 Kings 17).
- The basket-on-the-doorstep story became one of the most loved and most-told stories among Apostolic missionaries everywhere!

MEMORY VERSE

“But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:19

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

1. What did Nona find when she opened her front door that morning?
-



MISSIONARY STORIES

REAL STORIES ABOUT SPREADING GODS WORD

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

- 2** Nobody could explain who left the basket. Who did Nona believe sent it, and why?

- 3** Why do you think God waited until Nona was down to her very last food before He sent help?

- 4** Nona thanked God with happy tears. What is something God has given your family that you can thank Him for?

- 5** How can you be a 'helper' for someone who has a need this week, the way the angel helped Nona?

LET'S PRAY

Dear Jesus, thank You that You see every need before I even ask. Thank You for my food, my home, and my family. Help me to trust You when things are hard, and help me to share with others who are hungry. You are my Provider! In Your name I pray, Amen.

TRY THIS!

Make a 'Provision Basket'! Decorate a small basket or box together, then fill it with canned food or a few groceries. Cover it with a cloth like the angel's basket. As a class or family, leave it for someone who has a need (with a grown-up's help). Talk about how God loves to use US to answer other people's prayers!

