



January 2026

## Elijah and the Widow at Zarephath

"As surely as the Lord your God lives," she replied, "I don't have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die."

Elijah said to her, "Don't be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son. For this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: 'The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the Lord sends rain on the land.'"

1 Kings 17:12-14

This wonderful story is a practical testament to God's mercy and provision for the widow and her son. Elijah goes on to stay with them for some time and there was food every day! Whilst the ZVSF feeding programme may not benefit from miraculously renewing resources, our recipients (for example, the elderly, sick and orphans) often view the mealie meal distribution as nothing short of miraculous, when they believe they have been forgotten and do not know where their next meal will come from, or if there will be one.

Our beneficiaries often thank God for his gracious provision when they receive food for the month and, when God prompts people to give to this work and make it possible, then all the glory is His, for "Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain" (Psalm 127).



**Zimbabwe Victims' Support Fund**  
Registered Charity No: 1145569  
[www.zimbabwevictimssupportfund.org](http://www.zimbabwevictimssupportfund.org)



Life in Zimbabwe is harder than ever for many people and we hope the following three points will help you to pray for the people and for the country:

### Thankfulness for the work

We give thanks for our team, whose pastoral hearts are dedicated to supporting the vulnerable and children. We are thankful for the response to our recent special appeal, which has enabled us to continue mealie meal distribution at an increased level for the first four months of the new year.

### Families

With very little formal employment available, families are resorting to desperate measures to make ends meet. In the photo below, children are digging in the faint hope of finding a meagre amount of gold to sell, often resulting in deep and dangerous mining works that are taking lives.

### The nation

Large-scale commercial mining is destroying the environment and having a huge impact on vegetation and water sources. There is little safety oversight, meaning miners are often working in appalling conditions and corruption is rife.

**Thank you for all your financial and prayer support; this work would not be possible without you.**

The ZVSF Trustees and Bulawayo team



Children digging for gold



Mealie meal distribution in December 2025



For more on how to support our work, please visit:



<https://www.zimbabwevictimssupportfund.org/donate>