Mothers' Union Listening, Observing, Acting (MULOA)

Elisha and the widow sketch (Mosaic Creative)

This is a modern day interview, in the style of a TV broadcast

I = interviewee

R = reporter

R – Yes thank you, ……. – I'm here in the village of ……. And with me is a very excited lady – her name is …… and she has quite a story to tell.

I – Oh, excited is an understatement! I can't believe how my life has changed so dramatically so suddenly. This time last week I was in the depths of despair! But now everything has changed, for me and for my sons!

R – Tell us what life was like a week ago.

I – The worst possible situation. My poor husband Obadiah died a few months ago leaving a large debt dating back to when there was a famine. And suddenly the man who had loaned the money wanted it back! Of course, after the funeral expenses and without Obadiah to earn any money, we had absolutely nothing! How could I repay him? So he said he was going to take my two poor sons, Daniel and Joshua, away from me to be slaves! Can you imagine?

R – That must have been terrible… what did you do?

I – Well my husband was training to be a priest before he died – he was so young. While training he met with and spent time with the great prophet Elisha – Obadiah said he was the most wonderful man and has done some amazing things so I thought maybe he could help me.

R – Yes, I've heard of Elisha – he seems to be in much demand - did he have time to see you?

I – He did! He was so kind. I told him all of my troubles and he was so compassionate!

R – And was he able to help you pay your debts? You said you had nothing…Is he very wealthy?

I – Oh, I certainly thought I had nothing! And he is as poor as I – wonderful man, he never asks for anything for himself! He asked me what I had in the house, and I told him in despair that I had nothing at all. He asked, "Nothing?" "Nothing of any use," I confirmed, "Just a small amount of anointing oil in a jar, not even worth selling." Then he looked at me so kindly, but he seemed slightly disappointed with my response. "Don't dismiss what God has given you. Go and use it, and see what happens. Go to all your friends and neighbours and ask them to give you all the spare empty jars and pots they have in their house. Then when you have gathered them all, shut the door of your house and pour your oil into the jars – setting aside the jars that are full."

R – What a strange instruction! I think I would have been angry – or assumed that Elisha was mad! You had already told him that you didn't even have one jar full, and he was telling you to pour it into more?

I – Well yes – to be honest I was a bit angry – no not angry – more confused really… because I knew how much Obadiah had trusted him… So, crazy as it sounds, I did go round to all my neighbours and ask them for their empty jars and pots.

R – What did they think of that?

I – Oh, I think they thought I had gone mad! They knew what a mess I was in, but we'd shut ourselves away from them… I hate taking charity, but in the last few days had been forced to accept a little grain that someone had kindly left on our doorstep as Daniel and Joshua hadn't eaten for two days. But that made me more ashamed so I hid away from them more… They are very kind people and I think most were just delighted that I was asking them for help, even if they couldn't understand the point of it!

R – So then what happened?

I – Well this is the amazing part. As you know I just had a small amount of anointing oil in a jar so I did what the prophet said and started to pour it… and to my complete amazement, the oil just kept pouring until the empty jar, 10 times the size of my original one, was full!

R – That's unbelievable!

I – Yes! I nearly dropped the jar, I was so shocked! Especially when I looked back in the original one, and saw that there was still oil in it! So then I started on another jar – and the same thing happened, again and again! I would say – bring me another jar Daniel – Joshua bring those pots from the corner – and they did and they helped me fill all the spare jars and pots with oil. it just went on and on!

R – Did you manage to fill all the empty jars?

I – Yes, yes – we did! And guess what? When we had filled the last jar, I glanced back in the original and saw that all the oil was finally gone!

R – So incredible – so what did you do then?

I – Well I sold it – of course I did. And it fetched such a lot of money! I not only had enough to pay off my debts but there is plenty to live on, so my Daniel and Joshua they can stay with me forever – well of course until they meet two nice young women and get married!

R – What a fantastic story that is! Is there any last message that you want to leave with our viewers?

I – Oh yes! I learned such a lesson from Elisha – I was waiting for someone else to do something, to jump in and save me! I thought I had nothing. But God showed me He had already given me enough, and used what I had to save my sons – with the support of my neighbours!

R – Thank you so much. So, there you have it – what a story! Back to the studio and to… with the weather.