A. They have no Limitations When Fighting for Their Children (v. 1):
   1. Meaning in Arabic was "sound as thunder." A distress sense of "to shout, yell" - word is often used in the sense of "crying out" for help. This root means to call out for help under great distress.
   2. She came humbly as if she is a slave or an indentured servant.
   3. It is this heart that makes a difference before God.
   4. Her husband had died:
      a) Elisha did not just know about her husband he interacted with him possibly in the school of prophets.
      b) Her husband lived in reverence and awe of the Lord because he viewed the Lord as the one who has all authority and power.
   5. Her problems that caused her to cry for help:
      a) The creditors have already come and she is now expected to hand her children over as slaves.
      b) Creditors are not asking her to release her kids they have demanded her kids because the Law of Moses gives them this authority. She must have been really been behind on her bills (just a jar of oil left).
      c) The debt is so large that it will take the year of the jubilee to release the children. This means she will lose her children for six years.
   6. Losing her children seem endless to her.

B. They are a Constantly Full Court Press (vv. 2-6):
   1. Elisha, recognizing the widows plight, hearing her heart, knowing her husband, understanding what the law says about widows, responded with a deep commitment to work endlessly and tirelessly to help this woman (very different than the unjust judge, Luke 18:1-8).
   2. Elisha wanted the widow to expose what specifically she has that he can work from.
   3. The creditors can take her kids because she has nothing.
   4. She ended up with nothing in her house because it seems like she was constantly fighting for her kids. Her kids were more important than anything in our house.
   5. It usually refers to olive oil which was prepared for various purposes. It played an important part in sacrifices and worship, anointing kings or priest, it was used for baking wheat cakes, burning lamps, and for healing wounds.
   6. Elisha commands the widow that what he is telling her to do must become all she does until it is done. She must do this non-stop.
   7. The widow questions nothing although what she was doing made no common sense.
8. Elisha commands her to ask for the vessels to the point of begging. Her humility is key.
9. Elisha did not tell her to go and get another jar but to get vessels. This widow still did not question Elisha. She did as he commanded.
10. This could mean people near her or everyone she knows.
11. This miracle was unique for her and her sons. Don’t want the neighbors to know what God was doing. It is their vessels.
12. Just as she went about to find jars until there was no more she must pour the oil she had into all these jars. She must continue this action with no intent to stop until they are all full.
13. God’s direction to us is very specific. She was not allowed to use these jars of oil. God directed Elisha with a plan.
14. The widow was swift in our obedience and was determined not to stop doing what Elisha said until it was complete. This was all she and her sons were going to do until it was completely done.
15. Her sons like soldiers in the military obeyed her with all respect
16. Her heart became her son’s heart – legacy of faith.
17. The widow did exactly as Elisha instructed her to do.
18. She poured the oil because as head of her home it was her responsibility to make this work.
19. The vessels were full and if there were any more vessels they would have kept being full.
20. She commanded her sons to continue as faithful soldiers and to bring more vessels. Apparently they had stopped bringing vessels.
21. Not until there was no more vessels did the oil officially stopped. God stopped the oil, Elisha was not inside the shut doors.

C. Expect God to be God (v. 7):

1. She started out seeking direction from God, and even when her jars were full, she still sought God.
2. She came to Elisha with no plans to stop coming until everything was resolved.
3. The nature of her coming to Elisha after the vessels were full is similar to a person coming into the sanctuary of God in order to pray and bring sacrifices.
4. She did not get the results that she needed and then walked and did what she felt was best (after all she knew the value of oil in her day, she had one jar left). She still sought God.
5. Elisha is not informed about all God did under his authority. She updated him.
6. Elisha served God with complete reverence and fear. He viewed God as the judge of the earth, the creator of all things, and sovereign over all the earth
7. What Elisha said to her was something she must commit to do until it is done.
8. Elisha commands her to work at this as if this is her new way of life. His commands, God’s blessings and her complete obedience moved her from a victim of poverty to an entrepreneur.
9. Her entrepreneurship rebuilds her integrity with her debtors.
10. She and her children will be preserved, and restored as a result of her faith and trust in God.
11. God’s blessings can now allow her to enjoy a life of security, protection, and fullness.
12. Elisha still expected her to use her discretion in how she manages her business.
13. When God blesses it is more than just enough.
14. Seeking God with full surrender is what will make a lasting difference for every mother.
15. God’s blessings should not lead us away from him it should cause to seek Him even more so
that obedience and surrender to Him empowers a life of blessings.