

LivingCharacters

Lubbock Christian University Center for Character Development

Part 1

Background Information

History tells us the woman in this story had lost her husband. Her husband was a prophet, but owed money that she could not pay. In those days a person who was owed money could sell members of the family of the one who owed the money to get his/her money.

We can learn much about the 6 pillars of character by studying real stories that help us wrestle with what is legal and what is right.

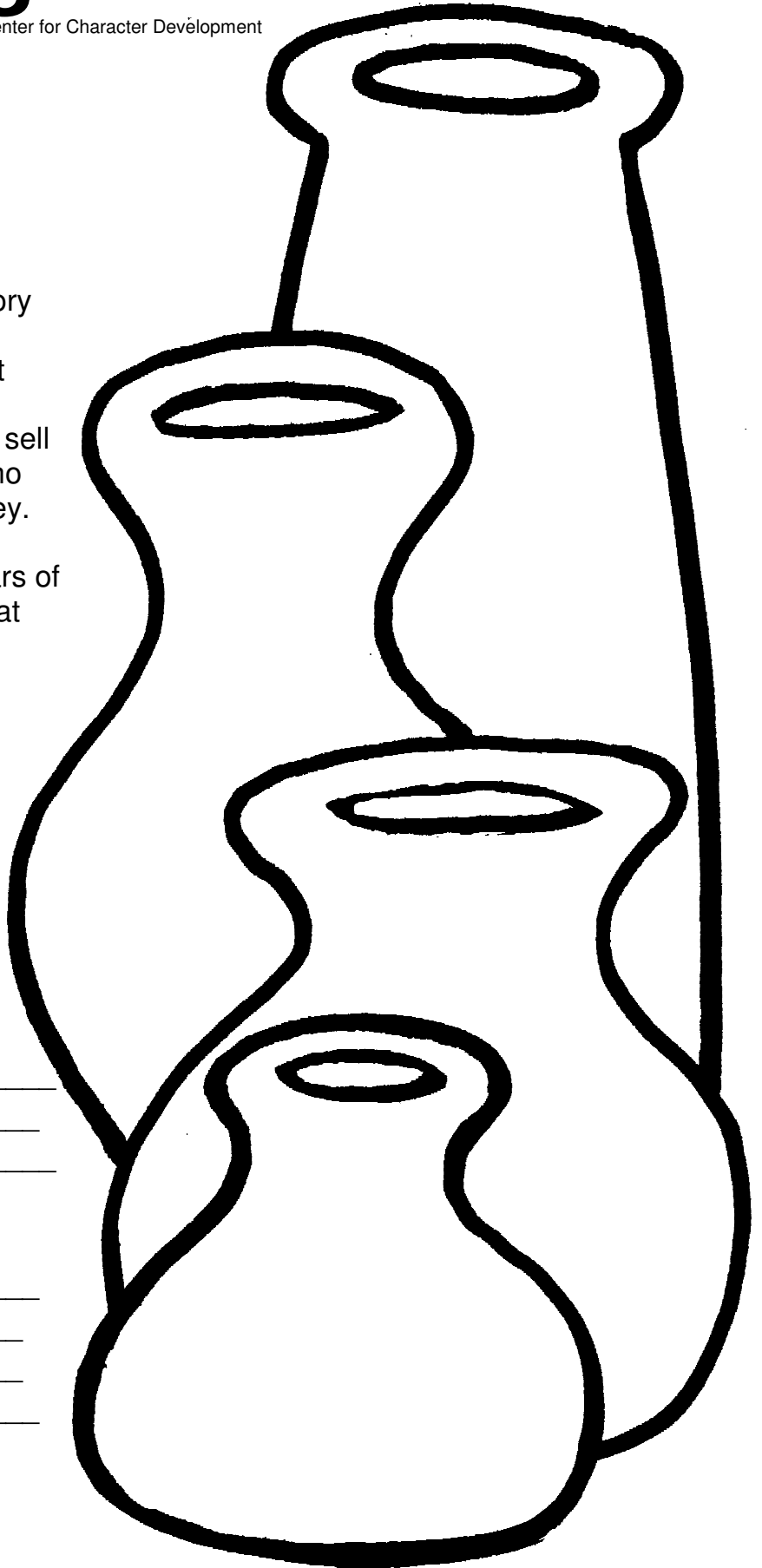
The facts

Who was the prophet?

What did the woman have?

What did the prophet ask the woman to do?

What did she do when all the jars were gathered up?

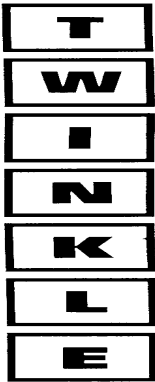
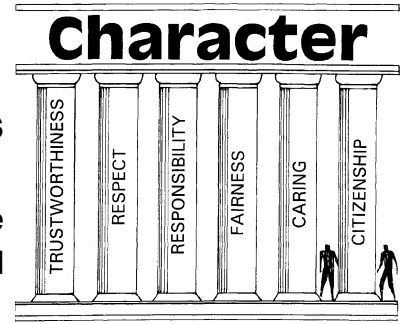


Six Pillars of... Character

Understanding Values and Virtues

This story happened during a dark period in the history of Israel. Israel had all the right character principles, but many of the people would not listen to the teachers that warned them about what would happen if they did not live by the good principles they knew.

We must continually work to be a person of good character.



The **Ethical Process** in finding solutions to any problem.

Think

Weigh all the parts which make up the problem. Separating the symptoms from the causes.

Investigate the perception of the ethical dilemma. Is it based on selfishness, self-interest, self-protection or self-righteousness? (The four natural enemies to ethics.)

Now, is right or wrong involved? How do we determine which is involved?

Know your ethical vocabulary (six pillars). Review and reflect on their supporting words.

Look for the higher ethic or standard.

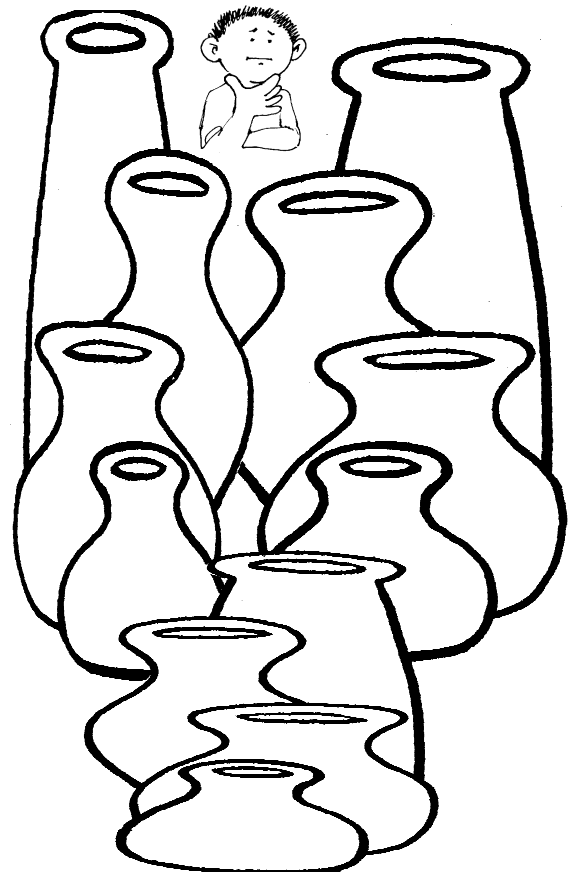
Evaluate the outcome. Is it truly a good character decision?

Elisha asked the woman to do a strange thing.

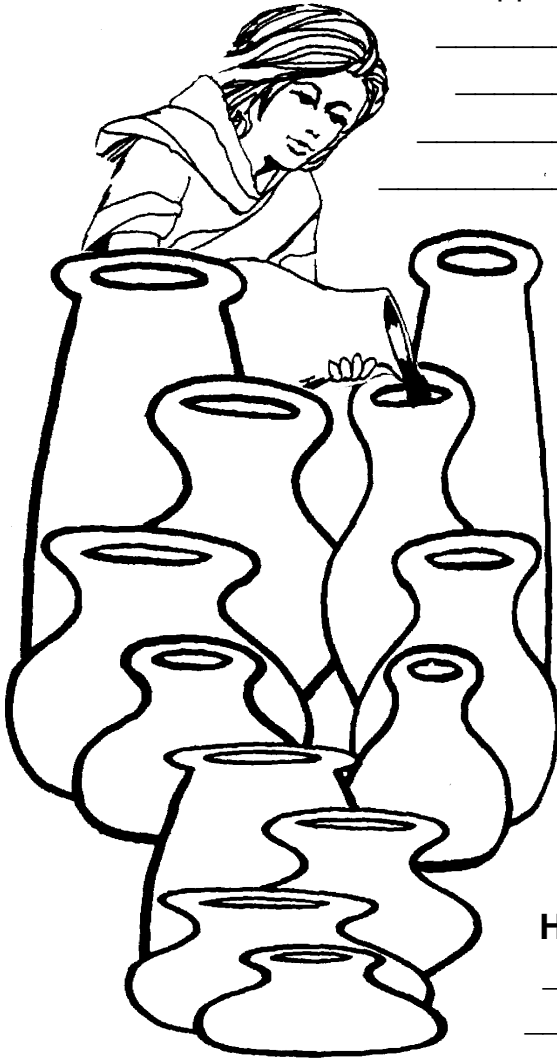
How did the woman and her two sons show great respect for the prophet?

What excuses could they have made?

What would have happened if they had asked for only a few jars?



What would have happened if the woman had just got tired and stopped pouring?



How did the woman show:
trustworthiness? _____

respect? _____

responsibility? _____

caring? _____

fairness? _____

good citizenship? _____

How did the prophet show good character?

How did the 2 sons show good character?

Showing Good Character is not always easy!

Why is it easy to just go along with what other people are doing?

What could make it hard to do what is right?

What qualities do I look for when I am looking for someone to give me advice?
