

USES FOR OLIVE OIL

1 Kings 17:1-24

Olive oil is mentioned in many stories in the Word. It was very important in the life of the people who lived in Israel. It is still important to the people who live in that part of the world today.

The olive tree is an amazing plant. When olive oil is mentioned in the Word it is a symbol for the celestial church in which love and charity reign.

The widow of Zarephath used olive oil to make bread. She may also have used olive oil as fuel for lighting lamps. Wealthy people used olive oil to sooth their feet and as a medicine. Olive oil mixed with precious spices was also used to anoint Kings. Olive oil continues to have many uses today.

Learning how useful and important olive oil is can help you see why it stands for love—an essential part of spiritual life.

Research the uses of olive oil using the internet or an encyclopedia and fill in the chart below by giving specific uses in the categories below.

CATEGORIES OF USES	SPECIFIC USES
CLEANSER	
LUBRICANT	
BEAUTY AID	
POLISHING AGENT	
MEDICINE	
CEREMONIAL COMPONENT	

1. How long can an olive tree live?
2. Olive branches were used to symbolize what?
3. Why do olive trees thrive in the Mediterranean area?
4. What are the characteristics of olive wood?
5. What sort of things can be made from olive wood?