



SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

ELIJAH CONFRONTED AHAB

1 KINGS 18-19

CHRIST CONNECTION

God sent fire down from heaven to prove that He alone is Lord. God sent the Holy Spirit like flames of fire on Jesus' disciples to empower them to tell others that Jesus is God's Son who saves people from sin.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

How many gods are there? There is one true God who alone deserves worship.

MEMORY VERSE

1 Kings 8:60



LEADER BIBLE STUDY

What is the boldest request you've ever made to the Lord? Have you ever experienced God answer your prayers in a uniquely powerful way? In this week's Bible story, we see how God answered Elijah's prayers.

King Ahab led the people to worship Baal. The prophet Elijah condemned Ahab for leading the people astray and instructed him to gather all the people and prophets of Baal for an epic showdown. The test was simple: both Elijah and the prophets of Baal would offer sacrifices to see if Baal would respond or if God would respond.

The prophets of Baal cried out, danced, and prayed all day with no response or hint of fire on their altar. When Elijah's turn came, he prepared the bull on the altar but took his trust in the Lord a step further by asking for water to be poured on top, saturating it completely. Elijah prayed, "LORD, let it be known that you are God in Israel, and I am your servant. Answer so that this people will know that you, the LORD, are God."

Immediately, fire fell from heaven and completely consumed the offering along with the wood, the stones, and even the water! After the showdown at the altar, Jezebel sought to kill Elijah, and Elijah fled. This time, Elijah's prayer was one of weariness and desperation. Again, God proved faithful to Elijah and answered his prayer. The Lord spoke to Elijah in a whisper and encouraged him, reminding him that the Lord would save those who remained faithful to Him.

The people of Israel knew that the Lord is the one true God when He answered Elijah's prayer and sent fire down from heaven. In the same way, people would know that Jesus is God's Son when the Holy Spirit came down like a dove when Jesus was baptized. Jesus is the Son of God and gave His life up for us.

Remember that God hears and answers the prayers of those who belong to Him. Thank the Lord for His faithfulness to listen and respond to our prayers. Remind boys and girls that through Jesus, we can boldly take our requests to God!

WELCOME



Connect with kids as they arrive.

OPENING ACTIVITIES

Greet each kid as they arrive. Use this time to build relationships and help new kids connect to your group. Before heading to Large Group, you can play a game, chat with kids, or do the Memory Verse Activity below as a group!

MEMORY VERSE

...that all the peoples of the earth may know that the Lord is God; there is no other.

1 Kings 8:60, ESV

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Each month, we'll have a new memory verse that goes with the lessons we're learning from the Bible. Choose one of the provided activities in your room's Memory Verse bin to review the verse with kids. A hand motion video is also available to learn and review on your room's TV.

Note: Our next Bible Bucks Day will be on September 28!



LARGE GROUP LESSON



Review what we're learning in Large Group.

ELIJAH CONFRONTED AHAB

After King Baasha, Israel had many wicked kings. One of those evil kings was Ahab. He killed the prophets of God and led the people to worship a false god named Baal. The word of the Lord came to the prophet Elijah and said, "Go and present yourself to Ahab."

The prophet Elijah came to Ahab and said, "You have ruined Israel because you have abandoned the Lord's commands and followed Baal instead. Gather the entire nation, and bring the prophets of Baal, too."

Once everyone had gathered, Elijah said, "How long will you go between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him. But if Baal is God, follow him. Bring two bulls—one for me, and one for the prophets of Baal. We will each prepare them on an altar as a burnt sacrifice. Prophets of Baal, you will call on your god, and I will call on the name of the Lord. The God that answers with fire is the one true God."

The prophets of Baal cried out to their false god from morning until noon, but nothing happened. Elijah made fun of them, saying, "Maybe your god is taking a walk, or maybe he is sleeping!" They danced and shouted all day, but there was no sound; no one answered; no one paid attention.

Then it was Elijah's turn. He repaired the altar of the Lord that had been torn down. He then prepared the bull on the altar and asked that water be poured on top. So much water was poured that it gathered in a trench around the altar. Elijah prayed to God: "Lord, today, let it be known that you are God in Israel, and I am your servant. Answer so that this people will know that you, the Lord, are God and you have turned their hearts back."

Then the Lord's fire fell. It completely consumed the burnt offering, the wood and stones of the altar, and even the water gathered in the trench. The people were amazed, falling facedown and saying, "The Lord, he is God!"

Ahab told his wicked wife, Jezebel, everything that had happened. Jezebel sent word to Elijah saying she was going to kill him. Elijah ran for his life. When he was far enough away, he prayed and said, "Lord, I have had enough. I'm no better than the prophets before me."

The next day, the Lord spoke to Elijah. He told Elijah to go out to a mountain. A great wind passed by. Then an earthquake. Then fire. But the Lord was not in any of these. Then there was a soft whisper. In that whisper, God said, "What are you doing here, Elijah? Go and anoint a new king over Israel. I will preserve for myself people who still worship me and who have not bowed down to Baal. Go and anoint a new king and follow me." Elijah obeyed God.

CHRIST CONNECTION

God sent fire down from heaven to prove that He alone is Lord. God sent the Holy Spirit like flames of fire on Jesus' disciples to empower them to tell others that **Jesus is God's Son who saves people from sin.**

ACTIVITIES



Do crafts and games with kids after Large Group.

MAIN ACTIVITY OPTION #1

Pass out the provided paper craft templates to each kid, along with markers/colored pencils and scissors.

Give kids some time to color and decorate the pictures. Then, have them cut out the fire and cut a hole the width of the fire above the altar. (See images below for a visual.)

Have them put the fire through the cut above the altar and move it up and down to show God sending the fire to consume the altar!

CONNECT THE DOTS



Elijah wanted to show Ahab that God is the one true God and that he was worshipping a false god/idol. To prove it, Elijah told the prophets of the false god to prepare a sacrifice and ask their god to light the fire. After, Elijah told them to cover the altar in water, which would make it practically impossible for a fire to light, and said God would light the fire. This happened to prove God's power and that He alone is the one true God.



ACTIVITIES



Do crafts and games with kids after Large Group.

MAIN ACTIVITY OPTION #2

Give kids the opportunity to compete in mini strength contests/challenges. These can be physical or mental contests.

Some examples include longest plank, longest wall sit, most push-ups, fastest to solve a math problem, fastest to finish a word search, etc. Feel free to come up with your own challenges or invite kids to create their own!

CONNECT THE DOTS



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BIBLE SKILLS ACTIVITY

Pass out the provided puzzles and encourage kids to become familiar with the books of the Bible and their order.

For younger kids, focus on helping them get familiar with the book names and which ones are in the Old or New Testament. For older kids, challenge them to put the books in order without help and/or start introducing the concept of the various genres the books are written in.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES



Continue to engage kids before parent pick-up.

BIBLE STORY REVIEW

Ask the following questions and lead your small group to discuss.

1. How can we know God will hear us when we pray?
2. Elijah was bold and reminded the people that there is only one true God. How can we be bold and tell others about the one true God?
3. Elijah stood up for what was right, and Jezebel wanted to hurt him. How did God encourage Elijah?
4. Elijah had men pour water on the altar three times. Why do you think he did that?
5. The people wavered between following God and following a false god. Do people do that today? How?

HAVE EXTRA TIME?

If you have extra time or your group needs to get out some energy, play one of the games/activities in your extra time bin in the cabinet or the “extra time” folder on the TV.

If there’s a new game or activity you want to have available for your group in the future, let Taylor know!

BEFORE YOU GO...

Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:

1. Put all extra supplies and binders back in the curriculum bins.
2. Clean all trash off the tables.
3. Put all crayons, markers, etc. back in the appropriate containers and cubbies.
4. Erase the whiteboards and put markers/erasers back in the holder.
5. Turn off the TVs as you leave.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!